The Canadian Jewish news

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A humungous hamantasch

NEW YORK (JTA) — The *Guinness Book of World Records* has made it official.

Seventeen students at the Hadassah Hotel Management College in Jerusalem have baked the world's largest hamantasch.

Actually, they put together 1,800 small hamantaschen and cemented them together with a sugar, jam and crumb paste.

The triangular cookie weighed 550 pounds and included 198 pounds of flour, 350 eggs, 17.6 pounds of poppy seed and 50.6 pounds of margarine.

It measured 4.5 feet long on each side and 3.5 feet high.

The hamantasch was split in two, with half going to the children at Hadassah Children's Pavilion on Mt. Scopus, and the rest given to Ethiopian students at a Hadassah preparatory course in Jerusalem.

The problem was not so much how to assemble it, but how to get it out the door, said Wendy Hirschhorn, spokeswoman for Hadassah in New York.

A family mourns

By LEORA FRUCHT

JERUSALEM — Herbert and Dina Friedberg waited many months to see how their son looked in his army uniform. But by the time Jason Friedberg's photographs arrived in the mail last Tuesday, he was already dead.

The 24-year-old native of Montreal had only two weeks left to complete his service in the Israel Defence Forces when his body was found in the woods overlooking the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway. He had been shot to death at point blank range while returning to his base near Tel Aviv on Sunday, March 7.

Jason Friedberg

A week later, Herbert and Dina Friedberg were ensconced in a Jerusalem hotel, awaiting the arrival of their two other children and trying to make sense out of the senseless.

"Jason was a gentle, caring person," relates his father. "He didn't like guns."

The yeshiva student volunteered for the elite Golani brigade out of idealism. He would have been released from the army long ago had he not taken pains to enroll on the day before his 24th birthday. That obligated him to serve nine months, instead of four.

"His commander told us that he was one of the top 10 in the brigade," says Herbert Friedberg quietly.

The couple last saw their son in August when they visited him in Israel. "We felt very proud of him. We're all Zionists."

But Jason was the most Zionist of all.

A week after graduating from Concordia University with an honors degree in economics, he left for Israel. The fact that it was the middle of the Gulf war and Israel was being pounded with missiles did not deter him. In Jerusalem, Jason began studying at the Machon Meir Yeshiva and joined the "hesder" program, which combines religious studies with army service.

"We never tried to dissuade him from coming to Israel," says Herbert Friedberg. "We love Israel. We're Zionists. Now," he cries, "we've made the biggest sacrifice of all." He stops to catch his breath. "Our first born son.

"I know," his voice cracks, "Israelis make this sacrifice everyday."

Dina Friedberg's pain is cloaked in anger. "Jews in North America are too complacent," she charges. "They don't realize what happens to Jewish boys here. I know because it happened to my boy. These boys aren't looking to fight with Arabs. The Arabs seek them out. My boy was travelling from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv when someone grabbed him in a car, shot him to death and left him out in the cold. So let's not feel one ounce of sorrow for 400 Palestinian deportees who are suffering from the cold in Lebanon."

Other family members and friends are angry at the Israeli army for taking so long to launch a search for Jason. His girlfriend, Karen Monk, reported him missing on Sunday evening, but it was not until Thursday that a search was launched, and his parents contacted. "At first we were upset at the army, but it was a misunderstanding," says Dina Friedberg. "The army followed the normal procedure in such cases," adds her husband.

The score that Herbert Friedberg has to settle is not with the army or even with the terrorists who killed his son. An observant Jew, who, for the first time in his life found himself unable to don his tefillin, Herbert spent the Sabbath seeking answers from rabbis. "I am trying to find a reason why he was taken," he sobs. "His girlfriend, Karen — they were supposed to marry — she is destroyed. So," he adds, are we.

"The rabbis told us the Almighty chooses the the highest and maturest among us to save the rest of the Jewish people.

"We hope they are right. We are trying to find meaning. But we're bleeding."

Slaying of Canadian condemned

By DAVID LAZARUS

MONTREAL — The devastated family of Montrealer Jason Friedberg, the 24-year-old Israeli soldier found murdered last Friday, flew to Israel late last week to make funeral arrangements.

In an interview with *The CJN*, Friedberg's uncle, Peter Schwartz, said the family is "simply devastated. This was supposed to be his last week of service."

Schwartz said his nephew, who lived with roommates in Jerusalem, was first noticed missing when he failed to turn up for an officer's training exam in Tel Aviv after spending the Sabbath with his Jerusalem girlfriend, Karen, and her family.

Schwartz said that last Sunday, when Karen discovered he never arrived in Tel Aviv, she immediately notified Jerusalem police, as well as his aunt, who lives in a moshav in Ashdod, and a cousin of Jason's in Jerusalem.

It was not until last Wednesday, however, when Jason failed to report to his army base, that the Israel Defence Forces officially listed Friedberg as missing and launched a widescale search. Friedberg's friends in Jerusalem had also organized their own intensive search party, his uncle said.

It was then, Schwartz said, that Jason's aunt contacted the family in Montreal to inform them of the situation.

The family was in round-the-clock contact with the Israeli consulate in Montreal since the time they received the news, Schwartz said.

Friedberg's death "is another crime perpetrated by evil hands whose sole objective is to disrupt normal life in Israel and to hurt innocent men, women and children," Israel's consul general in Montreal, Itzhak Levanon, said in a statement.

"Jason was only 24 years old and was seeking to establish a new life for himself in Israel. But terrorists, thirsty for blood, cut off his young dream and brought sorrow and consternation to his family and friends. By denouncing this brutal act with strong words, I hope that the world community will be more reluctant to criticize Israel's relentless fight against terrorism.

"I extend my sincere condolences to his parents, brother and sister and to all his family," Levanon stated.

Schwartz described his nephew as the "salt of the earth. He was no ordinary human being. Everybody who knew him loved him."

Friedberg grew up in Dollard-des-Ormeaux and attended the Hebrew Foundation elementary school of the Congregation Beth Tikvah and the St. Laurent branch of Herzliah High School.

Friedman went to Israel with the school while in Grade 9 and was class valedictorian upon graduation.

He went to Israel to attend the one-year program at Hebrew University but then returned to Montreal and earned a degree at Concordia University.

Friedberg immigrated to Israel two years ago to attend yeshiva in Jerusalem.

Federal multiculturalism minister Gerry Weiner, who represents the riding in which the Friedbergs live, issued a statement saying he was "profoundly saddened and deeply troubled by this tragedy" and expressed his "heartfelt" sympathy to the family.

Rabbi Mordecai Zeitz of the Congregation Beth Tikvah, where the family has been affiliated for many years, described Friedberg as an independent, sensitive, bright, giving and principled young man whose first exposure to Israel led him to more observant practice and to the decision to spend his life there.

"He was a close, personal friend," Rabbi Zeitz said, "like my own son. You always knew you were in the presence of someone special."

Rabbi Zeitz said Friedberg often found time to come to the synagogue to give adult education classes or to help out in some other way. "He anticipated your every need," he said. "He always found good things in others."

He said his synagogue will establish a "tangible living memorial" in Friedberg's memory.

Rabbi Zeitz said Friedberg was on the verge of making a final decision about his future, including the possibility of a career in the Israeli army.

On the day he disappeared, Rabbi Zeitz said, Friedberg was carrying his *tefillin* because he left Jerusalem before sunrise.

A prayer book was among his personal effects discovered by a construction worker before the body was found.

Israeli television quoted police as saying that a kaffiyah, a headdress worn by many Arabs, was also found near the body.

'You always knew you were in the presence of someone special'

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Canada

The Kabbalah Centre

Critics, supporters clash over controversial centre

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — By the autumn of 1990, Marilyn McLeod knew she was dying of cancer. The melanoma had spread to her brain and she was experiencing numbing pain, failing eyesight and disorientation.

When a relative arranged for a rabbi to see her, Marilyn's husband, Macklin, thought the visit would comfort his wife.

The visit was from Rabbi Eitan Yardeni of the Kabbalah Centre, which was then renting space in an Orthodox synagogue in Toronto. Macklin, who had converted to Judaism, knew what Kabbalah was but had received no instruction in it. The couple did not belong to a synagogue and was largely non-observant.

When Macklin came home from work one night, he discovered that his wife had purchased the complete hardcover set of the Zohar — the central body of writings that form Kabbalah, as well as a few other books about Jewish mysticism. The total cost was several hundred dollars.

"I was surprised," Macklin told *The CJN*. "I mean, what kind of rabbi visits a dying woman and sells her books?"

But it didn't end there. The couple was told that their mezuzah wasn't kosher and that Marilyn's Hebrew name, Malka Chaya, should be changed.

So for an additional $250, the McLeods received a mezuzah and about a dozen audio tapes from the centre and Marilyn's Hebrew name was "changed" to Sarah.

Macklin agreed to all of this because he thought it would console his wife.

Marilyn couldn't read Hebrew but she was told to simply scan the Zohar for its healing properties. "I don't know how any normal person can believe that just scanning the letters can have an impact on a modern disease," Macklin said. "It just shocked me."

Marilyn's disease progressed quickly. She died in January, 1991. She was 37.

These days, Macklin still wonders about the Kabbalah Centre. In the end, the tapes and books did not lift his wife's spirits, he said, adding that "it was clear" to him the centre wanted money.

"Whatever Marilyn did, she did willingly," Rabbi Yardeni told *The CJN* from Mexico City, where he now leads a branch of the Kabbalah Centre. Even in her disease's final stages, he recalled, Marilyn attended a Shabbat service at the centre.

Rabbi Yardeni, 29, said the McLeods were told to change their mezuzah because it was not kosher, and they agreed. He said Marilyn was persuaded to change her Hebrew name because it is the centre's belief that one should not be named for a deceased relative but rather after a figure in the Torah. "She did it willingly."

And it was Marilyn who contacted him in the beginning, he added. "She called me. I didn't run after her." He knew she was very ill. "She asked me what can be done in a positive way, to bring more positivity, after the doctors already gave her a time when she would leave this world."

It is not the centre's policy, he stressed, to seek out the sick and sell them books and supplies.

After Marilyn died, Rabbi Yardeni said he went to the shiva and joined in prayers.

"I saw enough things in my life, especially through the Kabbalah, that a person awakened to positive energy can feel better," Rabbi Yardeni said. "But we never promise a person that he's going to live [if he or she is terminally ill]. I don't know what's good for the person. Maybe for the person it's better to die tomorrow. [But] I know what can bring more positivity to his life. That, I'm sure I know."

The Zohar and his ministering to Marilyn were designed to "bring [her] positive energy on an internal level. According to my own experience, when you do positive [things], you grow and you achieve positive [results]."

It is "absolutely and unequivocally" not the policy of the Kabbalah Centre to seek out sick people and sell them books and supplies, agreed the centre's worldwide spiritual leader and dean, Rabbi Philip Berg.

"We do not seek out these people. We do not go into hospitals looking for sick people so we can prey on them," Rabbi Berg told *The CJN* recently. Such a practice would be "against every principle of the centre and it has never come to my attention."

Marilyn's sister Debbie is blunt about the Kabbalah Centre.

"They took money from a dying person," she said. "That's abhorrent."

Then there's the North York mother who was worried about her 20-year-old son, Daniel. The young man was unemployed and not going to school. He began spending a lot of time at the Kabbalah Centre, where he studied and did some volunteer work. The centre would call at all hours to express its appreciation. He bought the Zohar, which he could ill afford and could not read, but was firm in his new-found belief that simply scanning the Hebrew books would help in his quest for spiritual fulfillment.

Daniel, his mother recalls, had all the answers and could not be swayed. Soon, a sleek black limousine was picking him up for morning services at the centre. Family relations became strained as parents and siblings tried in vain to bring him out of what they felt was a cult-like group.

After a four-month trip to Israel, his mother said, Daniel seemed to "snap out" of his new infatuation. Today, he has a job and is attending classes.

"Things are better now," his mother said. "We've just agreed to disagree. He still thinks I'm the one who's crazy."

Daniel sees events differently.

He was drawn to the centre because he had a lot of spare time and "I was always interested in learning more than I did in afternoon [Hebrew] school." The courses he ended up taking "were not weird. They were downright interesting."

The main reason Daniel spent so much time at the centre was because he was helping with some outdoor maintenance and the centre called often with more jobs, which he did willingly.

"It was all perfectly innocent. I got what I wanted, which is information. And I made a lot of good friends."

Daniel bought the Zohar, he said, in the hope that one day, someone will help him translate the Hebrew into English. (Rabbi Berg told *The CJN* Daniel could have borrowed the books).

"If it wasn't for the Kabbalah Centre, I would not be on the path to becoming observant," he said. He's no longer involved with the centre "because it's not really my crowd." Daniel now takes classes at Aish HaTorah.

The family squabble over his involvement with the centre "was blown out of proportion." Daniel advises people not to listen to rumors about the centre. "Go and take the courses and decide for yourself."

Daniel's mother has decided for herself: "I remember thinking, 'What sort of organization would support this kind of behavior?' I mean, if something is supposed to be good, why did it cause so much conflict in our family?"

* * *

Few organizations in Toronto have stirred as much controversy in recent years as the Kabbalah Centre. Those active in it swear that it has changed their lives, made them better Jews and better people and opened their eyes to a realm supposed to be known only to a select few.

Detractors are equally emotional in their denunciation of the centre. Rabbis have distanced themselves from it and say the centre distorts and dilutes what is supposed to be revered. Experts on cults say the centre has cult-like qualities. One former student claims the centre amounts to little more than a quick spiritual fix.

Supporters, however, are not chagrined by the criticism. They draw strength from their learning, unshakeably convinced that they must bear the same burden as generations before them that were persecuted and ostracized for daring to study Kabbalah "unprepared."

* * *

Kabbalah. Even the word itself sends chills up more than a few spines. In the minds of many Jews, Kabbalah is studied by older, black-garbed men furtively huddled around an ancient volume, poring over its mysterious scribblings by candlelight. Most scholars agree that Kabbalah is difficult in the extreme, dense and cryptic, virtually unapproachable except for a handful of scholars who have mastered Torah and Talmud. The *Encyclopedia Judaica*'s entry on Kabbalah runs to 161 pages. It is said to be the last stop in Judaism: its heart of darkness — or light, depending on your point of view.

But for the students and teachers at the centre, Kabbalah is something else. It is a master key to the universe; practical knowledge that holds all the secrets of life, death, good and evil, success and failure; a compass for everyday living; a balm for stress, sickness, anti-Semitism and unhappiness.

Kabbalah literally means "tradition" and "to receive," but has come to encompass a complex and forbidding body of works on Jewish mysticism. Some scholars argue further that Kabbalah may be mystical in fact but at the same time comprises aspects of esotericism (beliefs intended only for the initiated) and theosophy (knowing G-d through spiritual ecstasy). In other words, heavy stuff.

It is widely accepted that Kabbalah was part of the Oral Law handed down to Moses at Mount Sinai. It includes references to cosmology, angelology and magic and there is a heavy emphasis on gematria (Hebrew numerology). It was likely thought of by its early proponents as a key to Judaism's many and diverse symbols.

Kabbalah remained virtually untouched until 12th century Spain, where a unique confluence of Muslim and Christian philosophies was thriv-

[Cont'd. on page 6]

The Kabbalah Centre's Sunday school teacher, Oriane Falkenstein, (extreme left) instructs 25 children each week.

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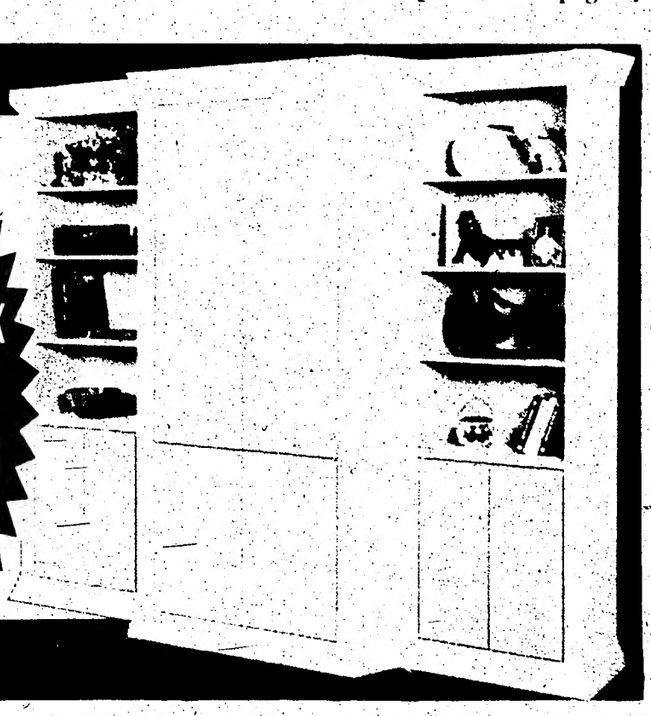

Senior policy advisor 'ear' to community

By DAVID LAZARUS

Neil Drabkin

MONTREAL — When you're only 31, it's hard to be thought of as a veteran.

Yet Neil Drabkin fits that description well. It's been almost nine years since he first stumped door-to-door for his boss, Multiculturalism and Citizenship Minister Gerry Weiner, who was then running for his first Tory federal seat in the then-Dollard riding.

Since then, Drabkin has racked up more kilometres on the Montreal-Ottawa highway than he'd probably care to remember, working for Weiner in several positions and shuttling weekly between Weiner's office in Hull and his riding office on Montreal's West Island.

Last year Weiner named Drabkin, who resides in Cote St. Luc but lives most of the week in a rented apartment in Ottawa, as his "senior-policy advisor," which gave Drabkin more responsibilities as well as more time on the road.

All those kilometeres also add up to the fact that Drabkin is totally dedicated to his job, and to Weiner, whom he considers "first and foremost" a friend. Drabkin has often put in six, even seven-day work weeks, his pocket cellular phone never more than a coffee cup's distance away.

Drabkin, however, not only does not begrudge the time he spends on the job, he revels in it. If there are better jobs than working in a "closest advisory capacity" to a cabinet minister, Drabkin would like to know what they are.

"In 1989, when he asked me to come to Ottawa to serve him, it was a dream come true," Drabkin recalled in an interview. "I still pinch myself."

The prospect of working for Weiner full time in Ottawa was intoxicating enough, but Drabkin was careful to temper the headiness with a pledge to himself to prepare himself fully on all subjects under the ministry's rubric.

"If a minister is relying on your advice," Drabkin reasons, "you better know damn sure what you're talking about."

Drabkin's responsibilities as "closest link" to Weiner have broadened since first joining his staff as "special advisor."

As senior policy advisor, Drabkin, a lawyer who has worked at the Montreal firm of Mendelsohn Rosenzweig Shacter,consults with and advises Weiner directly on Jewish affairs, and on citizenship and human rights issues.

Maybe most significantly, he serves as Weiner's chief sounding board, in Drabkin's opinion, because their views on many issues have tended to mesh closely.

An important part of his duties, Drabkin said, is as go-between, or "ear," to the Jewish community. Weiner is the only member of the cabinet (or the government) who is Jewish (and a Quebec anglophone), and it is therefore Weiner — through Drabkin — whom the community lobbies.

The issues range from war criminals and get (Jewish divorce) legislation to racism, anti-Semitism in Canada, and Israel.

Although not all these concerns fall directly under the jurisdiction of Weiner's office, it is Weiner whom the community approaches to make sure the "Jewish voice" is heard within the cabinet.

For that very reason, Drabkin said, he is in direct, daily contact with Canadian Jewish leaders, rabbis and organizations, "gathering the information required [for Weiner] to represent the Jewish community's interests at the cabinet level and in policy making."

Two examples:

It was Weiner's office, after consulting with Drabkin, which recommended that Jacob Luitjens, a convicted Dutch war criminal who was living in Canada, have his Canadian citizenship revoked.

Most recently, Weiner's office issued a strong statement, which Drabkin helped draft, condemning the recent vandalism at Montreal synagogues.

Drabkin's proximity to the Jewish community also made him the logical choice to organize the Montreal portion of the state visit by Israeli president Chaim Herzog two years ago.

Weiner (and to a lesser extent, Drabkin) also have had to be careful in making sure not to allow their Jewishness to color the decision-making process — while at the same time not losing sight of their origins, Drabkin said.

This proved to be something Weiner amd Drabkin discussed, he remembered, when Weiner's office wrestled over the decision to react to a visit to Canada by Holocaust revisionist David Irving (ultimately, Weiner opted to respond).

On the other hand, Weiner's office sought "immediate clarification" from Israel when then Defence Minister Moshe Arens described the Canadian-Israeli relationship as having reached its nadir.

"On the one hand, you can't separate yourself from being a Jew," Drabkin says. "But you also have to provide rational advice — to do what is right."

Most issues Weiner deals with, of course, are not strictly "Jewish," so Drabkin's duties also are directly related to muticulturalism and citizenship.

For example, Drabkin said he has been busy playing a major role in coordinating a new citizenship act, and advising on several projects related to multiculturalism and racism.

On the latter issue, for example, Weiner's office is considering recommendation to the solicitor general to establish a hate crime unit within the RCMP, with which it would work in co-operation.

At a personal level, Drabkin, who is single, is among a number of younger adult voices being heard in the Montreal Jewish community committed to staying in Quebec through groups like the Association of Young Jewish Adults.

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Historic meet planned

NEW YORK — An historic encounter will take place March 21-24 when for the first time representatives of the world's Christian Orthodox Churches meet with international Jewish representatives.

The Ecumenical Patriarchate of the Orthodox Churches is sponsoring a 25-person delegation to attend the meeting in Athens, including delegates from churches in Eastern and Western Europe, United States, as well as several countries in the Middle East.

On the Jewish side, the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) will send representatives of the American Jewish Committee, Anti-Defamation League, B'nai Brith, European Jewish Congress, Israel Committee for Interreligious Relations, Latin American Jewish Congress and the Synagogue Council of America.

"While the formal process of dialogue at the international level with Catholic and Protestant bodies — such as those with the Vatican and World Council of Churches — have intensified within the past 25 years, there simply for historical reasons has never been a parallel consultation with the Russian Orthodox Church and the other national bodies comprising the global Christian Orthodox Church," said Edgar Bronfman, chair of the IJCIC.

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Canada

Groups hopeful Zundel will still be charged

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — Despite last week's announcement that pro-Nazi publisher Ernst Zundel will not be prosecuted for promoting hatred, Jewish groups are still hopeful Zundel will be charged one day for calling the Holocaust a hoax.

"He must be charged. Otherwise, we will lose our respect for the law in Canada," said Sabina Citron, who has been pressing for charges against Zundel since 1978 and through whose personal complaint Zundel was twice convicted of spreading false news about the Holocaust.

The Supreme Court of Canada last year quashed the conviction, ruling that the false news section of the Criminal Code violated freedom of speech.

Citron said she was "outraged" by the Ontario Provincial Police's (OPP) decision not to charge Zundel.

"With all the information they have, the police have still not moved."

She said Zundel is free to do in Canada — deny the Holocaust in reams of brochures and literature — what he is prohibited from doing in his native Germany.

Last year, Zundel was convicted and fined in Germany for taking part in a neo-Nazi march.

Citron said her lawyers have been in touch with crown prosectors, who will continue to lobby Ontario's attorney general on the matter.

Also last week, Premier Bob Rae met a Canadian Jewish Congress delegation, headed by Ontario region chair Gerda Frieberg, to discuss the case.

Rae listened to the concerns but made no promises, said region director Manuel Prutschi.

At a hastily called press conference just after the OPP announcement, Frieberg said CJC was "outraged and dismayed" by the decision.

The decision not to lay charges was in response to a complaint CJC laid regarding statements Zundel made following the Supreme Court of Canada's dismissal of charges against him.

The statements were culled from a press conference Zundel held that day and from a separate radio interview.

CJC called for charges under Section 319 (2) of the Criminal Code, which prohibits the promotion of hatred against an identifiable group.

In his letter to CJC, Det. Robert Matthews of the OPP's hate literature section wrote that Zundel's statements were investigated and a legal opinion was received from the attorney general's office.

It was determined, Matthews said, that Zundel's statements on that date "do not constitute an offense contrary" to Canada's hate promotion laws.

Freiberg said a recent broadcast of the CBC's *the fifth estate* exposed Zundel as one of the world's most prolific purveyors of hate and Holocaust denial literature.

Frieberg said she hopes the OPP decision is not the final word on legal action against Zundel.

CJC will point to another Supreme Court of Canada ruling which upheld the conviction of James Keegstra for promoting hatred against Jews.

B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) echoed the hope that the door on prosecuting Zundel has not closed.

The OPP made a "very narrow" decision on the CJC complaint but one that is not surprising given there was "insufficient" evidence, said Mark Sandler, counsel to BBC's League for Human Rights.

He said all levels of police are attuned to Zundel's activities and they are more motivated now than they used to be. Sandler said he is confident Zundel will be charged when sufficient evidence is gathered.

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Name Game

There is a story in almost every Jewish surname and Toronto lawyer FRED M. CATZMAN has been researching their origins over the past few years. Mr Catzman reports on his research in The CJN.

* * *

BERGSTEIN

Bunny Bergstein, C.L.U., of Toronto, believes that his ancestors were either jewellers or dealers in precious stones or possibly involved in some form of mining.

Bergstein literally means hill stone, but the greater likelihood is that it is ornamental rather than occupational.

When Jews were compelled by law to adopt surnames, ostensibly to end their self isolation in the ghetto and to integrate them in society, but more probably to identify them for enlistment in military services and inclusion in the tax rolls, their choices were varied. Some adopted patronyms like Abramson. Others chose place names, like Posen. Occupation like Schneider, physical characteristics like Kurtz (short) or Goldhaar (gold hair) or ethical qualities like Ehrlich (honorable), Frum (religious, observant).

Many, however, adopted ornamental names which they considered prestigious like Goldstein (gold stone), Goldberg (gold hill) and Bergstein (hill-stone).

* * *

GELBACH — WEINPER

David Weinper, of Toronto, has written to enquire about the etymology of the above names.

Weinper appears to be an emasculation of Weinpresse — a wine press.

Gelbach literally means yellow (Gelb) brook (Bach). It probably belongs to the family of colorful names of bodies of water like Black Sea, Red River and Blue Danube.

* * *

GRANAT — MILGROM — RIMON

The pomegranate is full of seeds and is a symbol of fruitfulness. It was adopted as a surname in several forms.

In German and Polish, it is Granat. In Yiddish, it is Milgrom, and in Hebrew Rimon.

Granate is also the German word for garnet and it is in this sense that it attracts the word Stein (stone) in forming the name Granatstein.

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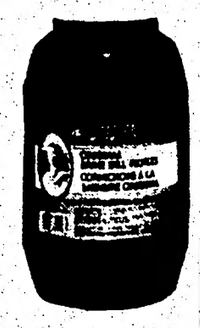

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Refusal of religious divorce could bar synagogue membership

By JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL — Synagogues across Canada are being asked to deny membership and honors to men and women who are divorced or divorcing civilly, but refuse to take part in the completion of the get, Jewish religious divorce.

The letter-writing campaign is being conducted by the Coalition of Jewish Women for the Get, an umbrella organization of six Canadian Jewish women's groups, which has declared this the Year of the Agunah.

An agunah (Hebrew for chained woman) is a Jewish woman who is civilly divorced, separated from or deserted by a husband who refuses to grant her a get, thereby making it impossible for her (or him) to remarry within traditional Judaism.

Only one Canadian synagogue is known to have amended its constitution in order to deny membership to recalcitrant men or women. Congregation Beth Tikvah, an Orthodox synagogue of 750 families in Dollard des Ormeaux, last June added to its bylaws a clause affirming that "a person shall not be eligible for membership if he/she has refused to grant their spouse a get in accordance with Orthodox law should the marriage be dissolved by civil decree."

Rabbi Mordecai Zeitz said the bylaw has not been applied to date, but he is aware of one or two cases where its existence appears to have encouraged congregants to proceed with the get.

Coalition chair Evelyn Brook said enlisting synagogues and eventually other Jewish institutions, such as federations, is a key element in its strategy to shame, in particular, men into issuing the get and "release these women from prison."

The coalition believes community disfavor and ostracism may go further in persuading such men, who are often motivated by vengeance or extortion, than rabbis or even Canadian law can.

The coalition equally condemns women who refuse to accept a get, but it is far more common for men, who control the process, to abuse their power, she said.

The letters were addressed to rabbis, board presidents and sisterhood presidents of the synagogues. The mailings began in December and the coalition has not yet received any firm responses, positive or negative, save for favorable comments from a couple of rabbis.

The coalition is composed of the Canadian Jewish Congress Status of Women committee, B'nai Brith Women, Emunah, Hadassah-WIZO, Na'amat and Women's ORT.

The Year of the Agunah was launched on the Fast of Esther earlier this month, so chosen to highlight the heroism of Queen Esther, celebrated at Purim. Purim this year also coincided with International Women's Day.

Many women in Montreal, Toronto, New York and Jerusalem fasted in sympathy with agunot.

Internationally, the year is led by the International Coalition for Agunah Rights (ICAR), which is headed by Norma Joseph, a Concordia University religion professor and rebbetzin of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue. It's being called "the first global attempt to free agunot."

Joseph said her own congregation has not outlawed membership for recalcitrant spouses but, in practice, such men are not given honors, such as aliyot. Rabbi Howard Joseph requires all couples he marries to sign a prenuptial agreement that each will take part in the get if they divorce.

Another goal of the year is to encourage agunot to come forward in order that the coalition can have an accurate picture of the extent of the problem. With hard data, Brook said, the coalition is in a better position to make its case to rabbis and batei din.

"Get abuse is something like the issue of battered women. Until such women came out of hiding, no one knew for sure how widespread it was." Shame and fear have traditionally kept agunot in the closet, she said.

Although the federal Divorce Act was amended in 1990 to require divorcing couples to "remove all barriers" in their religion to the ex-spouse's remarriage, there is still ignorance of the law in the community, and among lawyers and judges, Joseph added.

"We thought that when the law was passed, we were finished. We're amazed that is not the case."

The law is implemented only if one of the spouses instructs his or her lawyer to submit such a petition to the court, if the lawyer himself has not made the suggestion.

Of course, the law does not help women left agunot before it was adopted.

Nevertheless the Canadian law is a precedent and ICAR is working with organizations and lawyers for agunot in the United States, Israel, England and Australia to lobby for similar action from their legislators.

"The New York state amendment to its divorce law reflects this consultation."

ICAR now counts on the support of a half-million women in North America alone, through the membership of its constituent organizations, Brook said.

Clinton era spurs optimism

MONTREAL — The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the principal Israel lobby group in Washington, is optimistic about the new Clinton era, according to Richard Fishman, regional director of the Florida regional office of the organization.

Speaking at the recent 15th annual Southern Conference of Hadassah-Wizo Organization of Canada at the Doral Hotel in Miami Beach, Fishman told the 350 delegates that positive steps have already been taken by the new United States administration on behalf of Israel. He cited Secretary of State Warren Christopher's trip to the Middle East and the United States persuading the UN not to apply sanctions against Israel because of the expulsion of the Hamas terrorists to Lebanon.

Peace

Fishman said there seems to be "a real opportunity for the advancement of the peace process" but warned that peace would not come quickly — perhaps it might take as much as 10 years to achieve.

The speaker said that U.S. aid to Israel represents 15 percent of Israel's total budget "but it's an unpopular piece of legislation in our country. The Americans don't understand that 80 percent of the billions loaned is spent in the United States."

Despite the opposition that exists, AIPAC's role is to help get foreign aid through the U.S. Congress. AIPAC is faced also with a "frustrating dynamic," — fighting the flow of weapons to the Middle East. Manufacture of weapons creates jobs, he pointed out, "so it's politically expedient. New ways must be found to employ people."

He said AIPAC is a significant political force in the United States whose role "is to see that Israel is not pushed into the sea. We have to mobilize U.S. communities to stand up and fight."

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Canada

Kabbalah Centre

Cont'd from page 2

ing. It received its greatest impetus with the publication in the 13th century of the Zohar (literally, the Book of Splendor) by Moses de Leon but attributed by many scholars to Rabbi Shimon bar Yohai, a second-century mystic.

In any event, the Zohar, which includes tree-shaped charts and writing that goes in spirals, circles and other strange configurations, became the central work in Kabbalah. A distinct mystical school dedicated to interpreting the abstruse work sprang up in Safed around Rabbi Isaac Luria (1534-1572), who reshaped kabbalistic thought by teaching that evil can be conquered by mystical and redemptive acts *(Tikkun)*.

For centuries, it has been widely felt that only married men over 40, learned in Talmud and Torah, may study Kabbalah. Even approaching the subject was a deep and sacred undertaking, not to be regarded lightly. Many scholars credit the chassidic movement for bringing Kabbalah out of the darkness and to the masses.

But at the Kabbalah Centre, anyone may study — man, woman, child, non-Jew. The centre, which has a detailed fee schedule, bases its break from accepted tradition by explaining that there are two levels of Kabbalah: *Ta'amei Torah*, or the basic principles of Kabbalah, and *Sitrei Torah*, or the secrets of Kabbalah. The prohibition against the teaching of fundamental Kabbalah, the centre's officials state, was lifted by the kabbalist Rabbi Abraham Azulai, who decreed in his treatise *The Light of the Sun*, completed in 1619, that Kabbalah be taught publicly "to everyone, young and old. Only through Kabbalah will we forever eliminate war, destruction and man's inhumanity to his fellow man."

The centre, its proponents are quick to point out, does *not* teach the secrets of Kabbalah. For a person to learn those, they say, a certain level of wisdom must be attained.

Posters advertising the Kabbalah Centre don't spare any drama. "Only Kabbalah can end the disease of anti-Semitism! Only Kabbalah can teach us how to achieve lasting security! Only Kabbalah can provide us with a balanced and rewarding life!" trumpets one.

The first-time visitor to the centre is greeted by a dramatic, 30-minute slide presentation that moves effortlessly from the origins of the universe to quantum physics to showing how modern computers have found encrypted in the Torah words like "AIDS," "HIV" and "Hitler."

Kabbalah, we are told, provides us with the tools to cope with psychological, health and financial problems. It can bring families closer together. Kabbalah stresses the vast interconnectedness of all things and shows us how to take charge of our lives. Kabbalah is about light and energy, thus perhaps making Abraham "the world's first quantum physicist." Adam and Eve were made of light and each of us carries a "small spark" of our biblical forebears.

Prior to the slide show, those invited to the free public get-to-know-us session are addressed by Bill Phillips, a long-time student at the centre and its director of communications.

"What does success mean to you?" he asks about 100 men and women packed into a room that seats about 75.

The answers are predictable. Peace of mind. Financial independence. Happiness. Unconditional love. Phillips duly notes all answers with a felt pen on a large white board and then launches into a freewheeling talk on molecules, atoms and subatomic particles. The universe, he says solemnly, is composed entirely of energy. Kabbalah is energy. Kabbalah is control. It puts you in the driver's seat.

It is also, evidently, not a bad business. The Kabbalah Centre began in Toronto in 1987, when Rabbi Yardeni flew in from New York once a week. In 1988, Ottawa granted the group tax-exempt status as a charitable/religious organization. It grew to several dozen members and rented space first at the Toronto Zionist Council building on Marlee Avenue, then at Beth Radom Congregation and finally in the basement of Kehillat Shaarei Torah of Toronto Congregation on Bayview Avenue. (According to the synagogue's rabbi, Steven Cohen, the shul at one time considered selling the building to the centre).

In December 1991, the centre moved to 678 Sheppard Ave. West. As of a few days ago, there was a For Sale sign outside the small, cracker-box building because the centre is looking for more spacious quarters.

And no wonder. It claims between 1,500 and 2,000 active members in Toronto, each of whom pays $12 per class for 12 classes in the introductory round of courses. Three-hour seminars about Jewish holidays cost $15 each. Hearing a live lecture from Rabbi Berg, who comes to town periodically, is $36. Advanced courses in subjects ranging from astrology, reincarnation and meditation are priced accordingly.

There's more: a glossy, 32-page booklet advertises books (titles include *Astrology, the Star Connection* and *Reincarnation, The Wheels of a Soul*, both by Rabbi Berg) and audio and video tapes about Jewish holidays and individual parshas of the Zohar. The 24-volume Zohar, in Hebrew, is $435. ("Scan the Zohar for instant relief!" admonishes the booklet's centre spread). Books may be purchased in nine languages, including Chinese and Persian. Posters, coffee mugs and sweatshirts emblazoned with the centre's logo round out the shopping.

And that's just in Toronto. The Research Centre of Kabbalah, as it is formally known, boasts 19 branches around the world, including Taiwan, Hong Kong and Caracas. (A Montreal branch is still in its infancy). But the philosophy is more or less the same at all of them: one needs no deep grounding in Judaism or background in Kabbalah to study there; all that's required is a desire to learn.

The centre "is trying to bring people back to their roots and not be G-d's policeman," Rabbi Berg told *The CJN* in an interview while visiting Toronto recently. "I feed you the information and you do with it what you please."

Or as a Zen-like in-house maxim goes, "When the student is ready, the teacher shall appear."

It's a formula that obviously works. The centre's tax returns, obtained by CBC's *the fifth estate* and shown to *The CJN*, indicate that in the fiscal year 1989, the Research Centre of Kabbalah collected over $450,000 in Canada, before expenses, all tax-free. An American tax return shows that in 1988, the centre's total gross revenue in the United States was $3.3 million, more than twice the amount the year before, and had a net worth of nearly $9 million.

All profits go toward building new centres, said Rabbi Berg's wife and constant companion, Karen. "We don't have a Rolls-Royce and we don't wear $2,000 suits. We live in the centres wherever we go in the world. We don't live in hotels."

Added Rabbi Berg: "We're very legitimate. We have outside accountants, not that we need them by law. We don't have to let anyone know what we're doing with our money. Here [in Canada], we're not that rich yet. Wait until we get rich. Meanwhile, we're still poor [here]."

* * *

According to one of its own packets of questions and answers, the Kabbalah Centre was founded in Jerusalem in 1922 by Rabbi Yehuda Levi Ashlag (1886-1955) as the Yeshiva Beit Ulpana Le-Rabbanim, with the blessing of Israel's first Chief Rabbi, Avraham Kook. Rabbi Ashlag translated, for the first time, the Zohar into Hebrew from the original Aramaic.

Upon his death, Rabbi Ashlag handed the reins of the yeshiva to his chief disciple and brother-in-law, Rabbi Yehuda Zvi Brandwein, a descendant of the Maggid of Mezritch, the successor to the founder of modern Chassidism, the Baal Shem Tov.

When Rabbi Brandwein died in 1969, states the centre's literature, he handed the yeshiva, by then known as Yeshiva Kol Yehuda, over to Rabbi Berg.

The Kabbalah Centre routinely refers to itself as Yeshiva Kol Yehuda, even though Rabbi Berg acknowledges that a yeshiva by the same name is today run in Jerusalem by Rabbi Brandwein's son.

Rabbi Berg, who is described as having been Rabbi Brandwein's "chief student," studied at the renowned Torah V'Da'at Yeshiva in Brooklyn and is said to have attended the Beit Midrash Gavoha in Lakewood, N.J. under the tutelage of the late Rabbi Aaron Kotler. His biography lists his smichah (rabbinic ordination) as being granted in 1951 from Torah V'Da'at Yeshiva and a "special smichah in Kabbalah" bestowed later by Rabbi Yehuda Brandwein.

Recently, the centre provided *The CJN* with a copy of Rabbi Berg's smichah from Torah V'Da'at Yeshiva, a copy of his special smichah in Kabbalah from Rabbi Brandwein and a copy of the 1971 registration of Yeshiva Kol Yehuda in Jerusalem (in 1985, the yeshiva registered a branch operation in Safed).

One biography from the centre lists Rabbi Berg as holding a doctorate in comparative religion; another states his doctoral degree is in jurisprudence in biblical law. The doctorate, Rabbi Berg explained to *The CJN*, is not an academic one; it is part of his smichah.

Rabbi Berg came to Kabbalah relatively late in his life. In 1962, he was still named Philip Gruberger and was a 32-year-old millionaire thanks to his thriving insurance and real estate business. That's when he met Rabbi Brandwein in the United States and the two embarked on various joint publishing ventures. Several years later, Rabbi Berg founded the Research Centre of Kabbalah in the United States.

Sometime in the early 1970s, when Rabbi Berg and his family were considering making aliyah, he changed his surname to Berg. The rabbi was visibly angered when queried about the name change during an interview *The CJN* conducted with him last fall.

"So what?" he asked. He called the question "ugly, resentful and Jewish." Later, he termed various rumors about him "vicious, venomous and typically Jewish," and "an attempt to suck my blood."

But during a *CJN* interview in January, Rabbi Berg sounded a distinctly softer tone.

"I didn't change it to Ben-Gurion," he said. "What we did was cut off the first part and the last part. And what remained was the middle. If we really wanted another name, we would have it changed it to Smith. [Gruberger] was too cumbersome, too long."

Rabbi Berg's name and credentials notwithstanding, the centre and its teachings have met with less than enthusiastic response from rabbis both in Toronto and Queen's, N.Y.

For the most part, Toronto's rabbinate has kept mum about the centre. In March, 1990, the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto, the umbrella group for the city's Orthodox rabbis, issued a statement, signed by 19 rabbis both from the pulpit and educational fields, in which it "categorically" stated that the Kabbalah Centre "is not approved nor endorsed by" the signatories. It's not known what, if any, impact the statement has had.

But it affected Rabbi Berg. He called the directive a "disservice to the Jewish community" that came from "a kangaroo court. But do I hate these people [members of the Vaad]? The answer is no."

In the spring of 1991, the Vaad Harabonim of Queen's, N.Y. also issued a statement. Without actually naming the centre, the Queen's Vaad said it is "aware" of individuals and groups who promote the study and practice of Kabbalah. "In good conscience," the directive said, "we must discourage the participation in and the support of such endeavors."

"The real test is to open the Zohar and have anybody [from the centre] read a single sentence," Rabbi Irvin Brandwein of Beth Sholom Congregation told *The CJN*. Rabbi Brandwein, a distant relative of Rabbi Yehuda Brandwein, calls Kabbalah "arcane and excruciatingly difficult. The Talmud is simple in comparison."

Rabbi Berg readily concedes that "most" of the students as well as the teachers at the centre would likely not be able to read or interpret a page from the Hebrew Zohar.

But, paraphrasing Rabbi Shimon bar Yohai, "you can learn from someone who doesn't know," Rabbi Berg stated. "And Rabbi Ashlag said, 'First scan. You don't have to understand the words. Scan them. The light within [them] will bring a person back to doing good.' "

Rabbi Brandwein, who hails from southern California, is familar with the Kabbalah Centre's Los Angeles branch, which is "riding the wave of the New Age trend. It has popularized and packaged Kabbalah for spiritually hungry people."

But in spite of the rabbinical pronouncements, the Kabbalah Centre has attracted tens of thousands of followers worldwide. In Toronto, offi-

[Cont'd. on page 7]

To the uninitiated, religious services at the Kabbalah Centre may seem strange. Participants, though, don't hide their emotions...

...neither are they shy about their dedication to Torah.

Kabbalah Centre

Cont'd from page 6

cials estimate that at least 5,000 people have taken courses at the centre since its inception. Lectures are packed, religious services are held regularly, books and tapes sell, a Sunday school for children aged 4 to 12 attracts 25 spirited kids every week. Shabbat services are lively and warm. Somewhere, a chord is being struck.

"There's a lot of genuine misconception about what we do here," Bill Phillips, the centre's PR man, told *The CJN*. "It's serious. It's difficult. If you're looking for something hip, you won't find it here. We thrive on challenge. We're not looking for the easy way."

Phillips himself is serious about Kabbalah. He's owner and president of the Marbowe Corp., a Downsview-based company that distributes books and videos. Under the sign announcing the name of the firm is another reading, "The Kabbalah Communications Centre."

(Rabbi Berg doesn't discourage students' using personal and business contacts to spead the word about Kabbalah, a concern of one Toronto woman interviewed by *The CJN* who worried that her husband, a student at the centre, had been asked to tap his business associates.

"Maybe it should be our policy," Rabbi Berg said, "but there is no policy on that. Maybe we ought to approach the real close people [and ask], 'Maybe there's someone you know.' But we don't concentrate on stuff like that.")

Said Phillips: "When I first began attending services at the centre five years ago, I thought, 'This is a cult. This is weird.' Now, Phillips regards himself as among those whose lives have been "enriched and enhanced" and like most die-hard adherents, he sports a red string tied around his left wrist as a sign of a Kabbalah Centre student.

The centre, he stresses, is not a synagogue and there is no membership fee. One learns what and as much as one wishes. Courses are deliberately structured for the uninitiated. "We have 70 years of experience in designing courses and they are for people with limited or no background in Judaism."

Asked how secular Jews can possibly grasp Kabbalah, Phillips says all the subject matter has direct relevance to everyone's life. "People are looking for answers, that's true. What we do here has applications for everyday life, for your relationships, for work, for everything. You'd be absolutely amazed at what you could learn here."

And who studies at the centre? A "fair" number of South African, Israeli and Russian emigres, along with many Canadian-born and Orthodox Jews, Phillips notes. There are very few non-Jews, although they are welcome.

Shaul Youdkevitch, a 33-year-old Israeli rabbi, is one of two permanent teachers at the centre. The other, Rabbi Avraham Hardoon, arrived last autumn, while Yigal Kutnovsky came just a few weeks ago to cater specifically to the centre's growing number of Russian-speaking students.

"The [establishment] rabbis have always persecuted those who teach Kabbalah," says Rabbi Youdkevitch, who says he studied biology and learned with Lubavitchers in B'nei Brak. Then, the pursuit of Kabbalah "made everything clear."

"It's impossible to criticize this place without having tried it. We have heard what the rabbis are saying. Not one of them has come here to check. So how can they know?"

He may have a point. Asked about the centre, Rabbi Dow Marmur, head of the Toronto Board of Rabbis, (TBR) the city's umbrella group for Reform and Conservative rabbis, said neither he nor the board has examined the Kabbalah Centre or its teachings "in any detail."

Nevertheless, the TBR is "troubled by the proliferation of fringe groups that may mislead innocent individuals." The Jewish community, Rabbi Marmur said, "should be aware of the Jewish tradition that cautions against playing with fire."

On the other hand, Rabbi Avraham Plotkin of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham said "a lot" of what the Kabbalah Centre does "seems okay."

Last autumn, Rabbi Plotkin taught a free, six-week course on Kabbalah entitled "You don't have to be forty to learn..." It proved so popular that the classes started again early last month.

Interest in Kabbalah is at an all-time high, he told *The CJN* and, he added, there's nothing wrong with that. "There's lots about Kabbalah that can be very helpful to any Jew. People *should* learn some of Kabbalah if that enhances their interest in Judaism. And the sages tell us that it's essential even for a young child to be exposed to it."

Asked about his signature on the Toronto Vaad Harabonim statement, Rabbi Plotkin said the letter was not directed against the study of Kabbalah but against some of the centre's "tactics and methods."

It is precisely those tactics and methods which have attracted hundreds to the centre and resulted in plenty of first-hand evidence that its teachings have drawn many adherents back to the Jewish fold.

"It totally changed my life," enthused Syd Kessler, the 46-year-old founder and chairman of Supercorp Entertainment, the Toronto advertising and communications giant. "I'm a doubting Thomas. All my life, I was asking questions. The Zohar answered them all. For me, the information in the Zohar was a perfect fit."

Kessler has been active in the centre for over three years. "I grew up in the Conservative movement. Now, I'm baal teshuvah [one who has become strictly observant]. I'm shomer Shabbat. I put tefillin on and we keep kosher in our home and out."

Initially, Kessler, his wife and their two children approached the whole subject of Kabbalah "very cautiously." Now, "our whole life is Kabbalah. It has given us the methods to deal with life in a calmer, safer way. It teaches us how to tap into that energy source. It's been wonderful for my family. It has brought us closer together."

Among the aspects of the centre that first attracted Kessler was the fact that "at last, I wasn't being treated like a child."

Asked whether he thinks the centre is cult-like, Kessler said, "It *is* a cult. What's wrong with that?"

Plenty, according to Arnold Markowitz, director of the New York-based Cult Hotline, a counselling project of the local Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services.

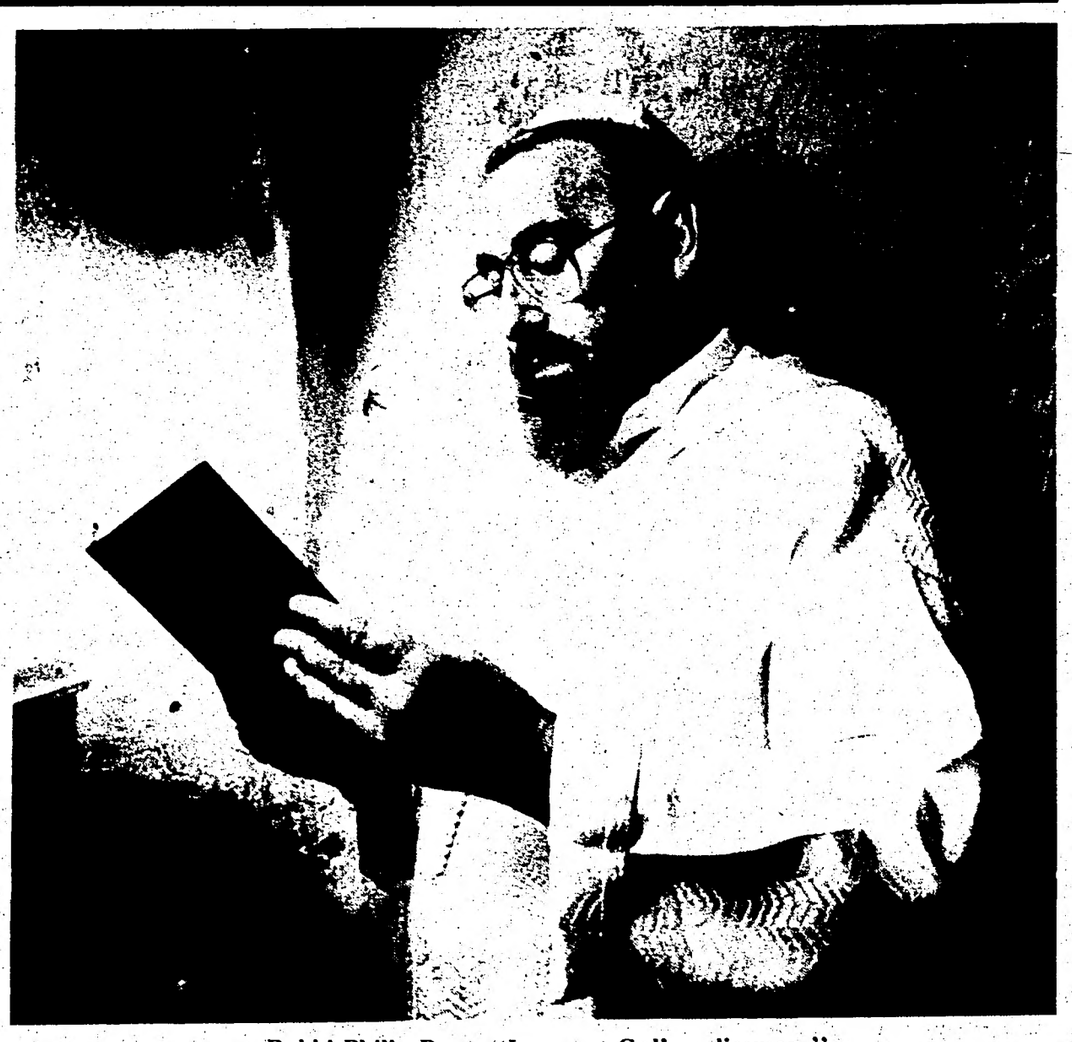
Markowitz, who monitors dozens of cults in the United States, said he's received "a fair amount" of calls complaining of "high-pressure" and abusive tactics employed by the Kabbalah centre's New York branch.

The calls, usually from current and former members and their relatives, tell of people "totally consumed" by the centre "while neglecting family and work."

Markowitz stopped short of calling the centre a cult but he said it exhibits many cult-like qualities similar to "name" cults like the Unification Church of Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

It is not the extent of the New York Kabbalah Centre's zealousness that makes it cult-like, Markowitz explained. His research has shown the centre to impart "an inordinate amount" of submission to its rules — to the neglect of other pursuits — a high level of suggestability, denial of privacy and a strong focus on a self-appointed, charismatic leader, namely, Rabbi Berg. It also employs some "hard-sell" tactics usually associated with better-known cult groups.

The centre displays a strong inwardness too: "They see the outside world as unenlightened. It's a very 'us-versus-them' mentality."



Rabbi Philip Berg: "I am not G-d's policeman."

Across town at the New York Jewish Community Centre's Task Force on Missionaries and Cults, director Phil Abramowitz said he's received about 25 complaints over the last few years about the Kabbalah Centre, mostly about its aggressive door-to-door canvassing and allegations of abusive behavior from members when turned down for a donation.

Ditto for Toronto. Bernie Farber of Canadian Jewish Congress said complaints about the Kabbalah Centre first surfaced during the Gulf War two years ago.

Mainly, Farber said, they focussed on aggressive fundraising and door-to-door book sales.

Julius Ciss, head of the Toronto outreach and counter-missionary group Jews for Judaism, has tallied about a dozen complaints about the centre over the past two years.

Ciss said the concerns he's heard revolve around supposed changes in the personalities of students at the centre as well as students spending a lot of money on books, tapes and other paraphernalia.

The Kabbalah Centre's intentions are good but rabbis have "some cause" to be concerned about it, Dena Bain Taylor, a University of Toronto English professor and expert on cults, told *The CJN*.

The study of any form of mysticism requires previous learning, Taylor said, adding that even studying "normative" Judaism can harm the uninitiated.

"Any mysticism can be a dangerous thing and you have to be careful who you teach these things to.

"You don't hand the first person you see on the street the keys to a nuclear reactor."

Taylor said it is "fair" to call the Kabbalah Centre cult-like. "But I would hesistate to call it a fringe group.

"They can do a lot of good. But I would be concerned about the person who throws himself into it. That can be dangerous." The centre, she said, encourages that kind of zealousness.

Taylor said her research has shown that often, not enough care is taken of individual students at the centre, who tend to be "inundated and not guided."

And it is not Kabbalah the centre teaches "but Rabbi Berg's interpretation of Kabbalah."

Taylor was first exposed to the Kabbalah Centre when her husband, Charles Taylor, was asked about five years ago to carry the centre's books through his Yorkville store, Ben Abraham Books, which stocks works on world religions, metaphysics and other esoteric fields.

Charles Taylor said he recommends the centre's books only to those who have little or no grounding in Kabbalah.

The centre's books are "a good introduction" to Kabbalah but Taylor said he steers those familiar with the subject to more serious works.

"Many people who do have a background in Kabbalah find their books too simple. It's a two-edged sword. [The centre] makes Kabbalah more accessible but in order to do that, you have to present it in a simple way."

Taylor carries the centre's books "because they serve a useful purpose. They can act as a bridge between New Age and Judaism."

For his part, Rabbi Berg shrugs off any comparison of the Kabbalah Centre to a cult.

"I'm a pretty poor cult leader," he chuckled. "There is a definition of a cult. There's this guy who thought he was Moses, cut open this poor gal, pulled out her intestines and put them back." [Rabbi Berg was referring to Ontario cult leader Roch Therlault, recently sentenced to a lengthy prison term].

Rabbi Berg also alluded to Rev. Jim Jones, who persuaded over 900 of his followers to commit mass suicide in Guyana in 1978.

"There are pretty clear definitions of what a cult is. They use it loosely and say we're a cult. Total submission is a cult. Here, everyone hears the rabbi in his sermon say, 'I am not G-d's policeman. And don't believe everything I say. You have a right to chew it up the way you want.'

"When I was a [pulpit] rabbi, it disturbed me that no one listened to me. And yet, here we see the opposite but nobody has to do anything."

Rabbi Yehiel Benayon of Toronto's Magen David Congregation looked into the centre after several members of his Sephardic shul were drawn to it.

"The point is, for every person they have touched, they have turned off five. They do not teach Kabbalah, they sprinkle some tantalizing knowledge. Ninety percent of what they teach is conventional Judaism."

Rabbi Yitzchok Kerzner of Toronto's Machzikei Hadas (Clanton Park) Congregation attended Yeshiva Torah V'Da'at with Rabbi Berg in the late 1940s and remembers his former classmate as "taking a different approach to Judaism."

But to teach Kabbalah to the uninitiated is "totally repugnant" to Judaism and is "potentially dangerous and subversive," Rabbi Kerzner said.

"You have to start with aleph-bais [the ABCs]. But to begin where scholars fear to tread is unthinkable. First, you have to cultivate proper Jewish behavior.

"Judaism is a rational faith based on halacha [Jewish law]. Mysticism and the occult are not integral parts of Judaism. [But] they're attractive and people are looking for an out."

Asked to compare the centre to other Jewish outreach groups like Aish HaTorah and Lubavitch, Rabbi Kerzner said those two organizations "start with the ABCs. They don't start at the wrong end."

As for the 16th century edict that supposedly removed the prohibition against the teaching of Kabbalah, it is "not accepted by the overwhelming majority of halachic authority," he said.

Rabbi Kerzner conceded that he has not investigated the centre.

Rabbi Aaron Hoch, education director at Aish HaTorah, said he recognizes there is a "tremendous thirst" for Kabbalah in Toronto. That's why his organization offers courses which contain "some" Kabbalah. Plunging straight into the subject without a firm grounding in Judaism, "is like drinking wine on an empty stomach," said Rabbi Hoch, paraphrasing Maimonides.

Rabbi Berg is equally adamant about the veracity of Rabbi Azulai's lifting of the prohibition against studying Kabbalah.

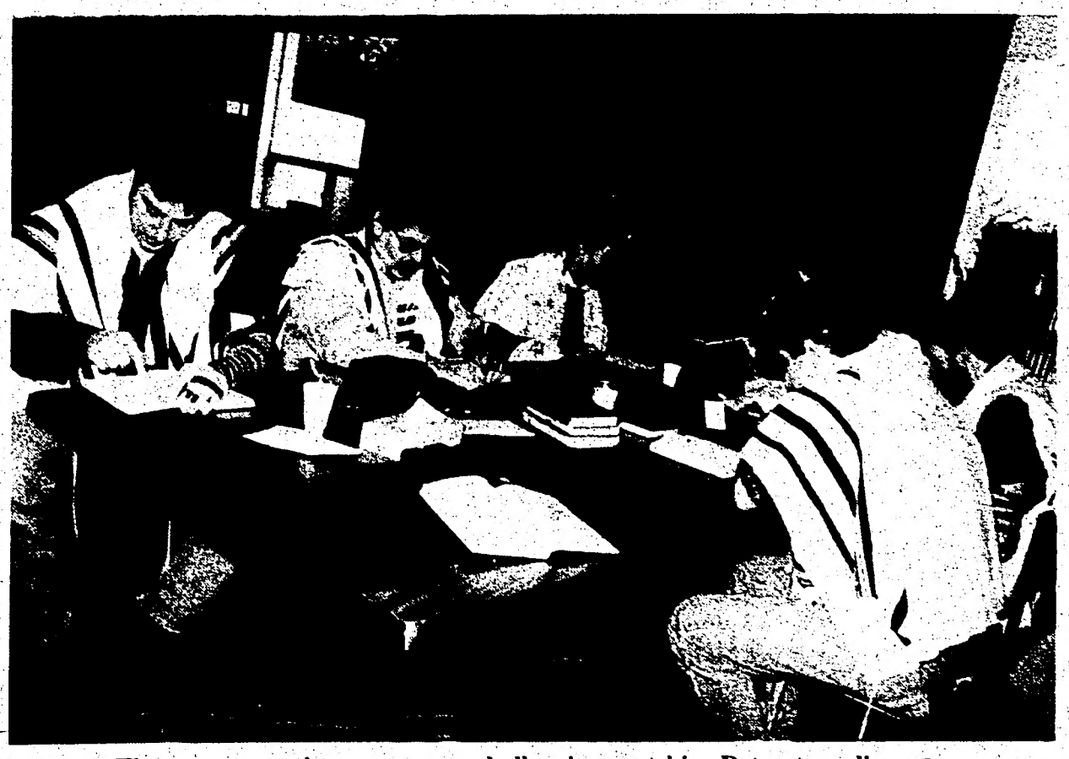
And rabbis who oppose him "are jealous. They're simply jealous of how we are reaching people." In the subsequent interview, Rabbi Berg softened that, saying "I haven't spoken with them. I have been told that."

Rabbis who disagree with spreading Kabbalah to the masses should examine the teachings of the Vilna Gaon, the renowned 18th century intellectual giant, who wrote "very specifically that Kabbalah should be our first pre-requisite, before Talmud, before anything else. Now, let them [the rabbis] go back to the Vilna Gaon and say he shouldn't have written that."

His candor is one of Rabbi Berg's signatures. He's not shy when it comes to criticizing his own.

"We brought Hitler on ourselves and we'll do it again," he warned in the first *CJN* interview.

[Cont'd. on page 9]



The centre says its courses are challenging, not hip. Detractors disagree.

Canada

Quebecers are urged to form strategies

By DAVID LAZARUS

MONTREAL — Quebecers must work one-on-one to forge bonds and combat the "exclusionist" tendencies that cause racism, said a senior government minister recently.

Cultural Communities Minister Monique Gagnon-Tremblay was speaking at a colloquium on racist violence at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza.

The all-day seminar was organized by the Comite d'intervention contre la violence to establish new strategies against violent manifestations of racism, seen as a growing phenomenon.

Members of the Comite include the Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q), the Quebec Human Rights Commission, Ligue des droits et libertes, and Centre maghrebin de recherche et de l'information.

In a lengthy lunchtime address, Gagnon-Tremblay reaffirmed the need to denounce racist violence and to encourage "rapprochement" between communities.

She urged the group to resist the temptation to see the problem in simplistic terms, or to seek out sweeping solutions to an ingrained problem that manifests itself even at the the most prosaic levels — at home, at school, or on the job.

To get to the root of the problem, she said, acts of racist violence have to be seen as the inevitable culmination of the common prejudices and "acts of exclusion" individuals are subjected to in their day-to-day lives.

It is here, she said, where common ground will be found between those victims of exclusion — women, homosexuals and visible minorities.

Gagnon-Trembly also urged Quebec's majority and minority communities to forge alliances in order to "better define the Quebec identity."

"The more secure Quebec is in its identity," she said, "the more pluralism will be seen as an asset and less as a threat."

The March 4 colloquium took place the day Public Security Minister Claude Ryan sent a letter to Equality Party MNA Robert Libman rejecting the establishment of a governmental task force to investigate anti-Semitic vandalism in the Montreal area.

"I doubt that the creation of a new organism," Ryan wrote, "will serve to improve the work already being done."

Recommendations emerging from the colloquium will be released before March 21, designated as the International Day for the Prevention of Racist Violence. That day, the Quebec government will launch a three-week "sensitization campaign" against racism and discrimination.

Cuba sees Jewish cultural revival

BY SHELDON KIRSHNER

TORONTO — A "tremendous" Jewish cultural revival is taking place in the Caribbean Communist state of Cuba, says a Canadian visitor who recently spent a week there.

"Very few people outside Cuba know about it," said Yehuda Lipsitz, executive vice-president of the Association for Jewish Continuity and former executive director of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region.

"This is a kind of miracle."

On his previous visit to Cuba three years ago, Lipsitz came away with the impression that Cuban Jewry was dying.

Lipsitz, who was in Cuba at the beginning of March at the invitation of local communal leaders, said that even Jewish members of the ruling Communist party "are coming out of the woodwork and want to identify with the Jewish community."

There are essentially three reasons for the ongoing renaissance, according to Lipsitz.

•The Cuban leader, Fidel Castro, has relaxed an edict banning Communist party members from joining a religious community or group.

•The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has been given permission to send rabbis and youth leaders to Cuba — a development which has brought more younger Jews into the community.

Yehuda Lipsitz

•A free meal program by Havana's three synagogues — Patronato, Adath Israel and Shevat Achim — amid mounting economic hardship has encouraged more of Cuba's estimated 1,000 Jews to identify openly as Jews.

"You see more people than ever at Friday night and Saturday morning synagogue services," reported Lipsitz. "More kids and adults attend the Sunday Jewish school. There's a new youth group, with its own choir, theatre and dance troupe."

And, he adds, 44 Cubans have converted to Judaism in the past 1½ years.

Since January, 11 adults from the ages of 19 to 46, and nine children, have been circumcized.

As well, 12 mixed couples have been remarried in Jewish wedding ceremonies.

Among them were Jose Miller, the president of the Cuban Jewish community, and his son, Irving Miller Gomez.

Lipsitz described the current food shortages in Cuba as "unbearable." Last year, Passover food shipments, paid for by the Canadian Jewish Congress, were sent to Cuba via Mexico.

Blackouts are common, and on certain nights the electric door of the Patronato synagogue does not function.

Lipsitz said that Cuba is remarkably free of anti-Semitism, either on the state or grassroots level.

"The government is quite friendly to the Jewish community."

Nevertheless, many young Jews desire to leave, and Israel is one of their possible destinations.

"They don't think they have a future in Cuba."

Most Jews live in Havana — the capital — while the rest are scattered around the island.

Humorist to speak to Hadassah

By MAURICE LUCOW

VANCOUVER — Those who remember the time when Egypt's President Anwar Sadat came to Jerusalem may recall that Golda Meir greeted him at the plane with the question: "Mr. President, what took you so long?"

Well, the same question might be asked by Fay Riback, a long-time Hadassah-WIZO member, when she welcomes famed humorist Art Buchwald to Vancouver in May.

According to a front page story in the *Vancouver Sun* by Lisa Fitterman, Riback decided 12 years ago that syndicated *Washington Post* columnist and raconteur Buchwald would be a great speaker for a Hadassah-WIZO meeting.

She managed to get his phone number in Washington. Buchwald said he didn't make a habit of speaking to Jewish ladies . . . but why not try him next year. And write, just as a reminder.

Art Buchwald

Well, the correspondence went on for years until finally last September he agreed to come. Buchwald told the *Sun* he had little choice but to accept. "Fay persisted and persisted," he said of his pen pal, "and I finally ran out of steam. I tried to get out of it" but couldn't.

So he'll be arriving in Vancouver on May 4 for a whirlwind visit before flying to Los Angeles to get an honorary doctorate at the University of Southern California. While here, he'll speak at An Evening with Art at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Tickets are $75 per person.

Buchwald told Fitterman he plans to talk about Canadian-American relations and how nice the people were at the Canadian embassy because they let people stand on the roof to watch the presidential inauguration earlier this year.

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Israelis react to rash of violence, murders

By LEORA FRUCHT

JERUSALEM — Israel is at war.

That was the headline that ran in an Israeli newspaper this week. It is a refrain that is becoming increasingly common as Israelis are jolted every day by reports of one brutal killing after another. Eight dead and 18 wounded is the toll for the first two weeks of March.

"It's not enough to listen to the news at 7 o'clock in the evening. You have to tune in again at 7:30 because by then there might be other casualties," bemoans Jerusalemite Tovi Fenster.

Like the Gulf War, this is a war on the homefront. Everyone is vulnerable. A 51-year-old woman can be bludgeoned to death by Arab workers disguised as women. A 15-year-old boy who offers a sandwich to an Arab youth sitting next to him can, a moment later, be stabbed by him.

Like the Gulf War, this is a psychological battle. Its main weapon is fear. "It's like Russian roulette," said a Jerusalem man. "You don't know whose turn it will be today."

"You're afraid to go out of the house. You're afraid to let your children out of the house," cried one Tel Aviv woman during an open line radio show. "It's a state of seige," added Martin Granot, a farmer from Gush Katif in the Gaza Strip.

The zones have changed since the Gulf War. The Gaza Strip has become the "Area A" of this war. But no part of the country is immune to terror — from the central bus station in Tel Aviv to the orchards of Rehovot, from the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway to the road in Hebron.

There are no sirens this time to warn of an impending attack. No "safe" house. Daytime. Nightime. Anytime is ripe for terror.

"You feel a loss of control, a loss of security," says Jerusalemite Tovi Fenster.

Some say the sense of powerlessness has infiltrated even the highest echelons. The appeal by Police Commissioner Yaacov Terner to all Israelis who own guns to carry them at all times shocked many.

"It's as though the police are saying: 'We can't take care of you, so you'd better take care of yourselves'," says Fenster. "I found it very disturbing."

Several ministers blasted the idea, warning that it would lead to anarchy and turn the country into a Wild West. Prime Minister Rabin reportedly called Terner's reaction "hysterical."

In this war of nerves, many level-headed people find themselves reacting hysterically. During a tranquil Sabbath walk through a Jerusalem park, 32-year-old Kim M. noticed an Arab nearby. Before she knew it, she was running away as fast as she could.

"It's something I would never have done before," says the graphic artist, who lives in a Jerusalem suburb bordering an Arab village. But one day last month Kim awoke to loud screams. Three of her neighbors were being stabbed at the bus-stop below her window. "I haven't been quite the same ever since."

Perhaps the worst thing about this war is the paranoia it breeds. To see a pastoral scene of rolling hills and almond blossoms on the outskirts of Jerusalem. To know that against that backdrop a father saw his son stabbed to death. To watch a farmer walk by the same pastoral setting with a hoe in hand. To see the hoe as a sharp tool, the farmer as a hostile enemy.

To see enemies everywhere. To not know what is real anymore. To be consumed by fear and hatred.

"Flatten the villages, kill them all," says a Jewish taxi driver, as he passes the village with the almond blossoms.

"Death to Arabs!" cries the Jerusalem mob as they pelt the villagers with stones.

A Gaza Arab is shot to death by an irate resident of Gush Katif, returning from the funeral of his neighbor.

A Druze man is shot and seriously wounded by a Golan resident who mistakes him for a Muslim fundamentalist terrorist. The Druze leadership says it fears that all members of the community who wear their traditional attire risk becoming targets for nervous Jews. Even a mentally disturbed Jewish boy in Petach Tikva is lynched by an angry mob who think he is an Arab terrorist.

And the real terrorists continue to kill.

It is a war that has claimed more Israeli lives than the Gulf War did. But the world, full of admiration for the victims of Saddam's missiles, finds nothing heroic about being the victim of a knife or a bullet. There is no glory here. No solidarity. No blanket of global sympathy.

Just a shattered world for each of the victim's families. And the constantly repeated question: How long can this war go on?

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According to Rabbi Joshua Woldner, most of the questions during the year deal with the Jewish family life cycle.

Anyone interested in receiving the checklist, should send a self—addressed stamped envelope to: The National Halacha Hotline, 225 Division Ave. #3/C, Brooklyn, New York 11211. The hotline numbers are: (718) 963—1236 or (212) 425—2242.

Kabbalah Centre

Cont'd from page 7

meaning it was inter-Jewish hatred which brought about the destruction of the First and Second Temples.

"I'm not trying to blame Jews for our own misfortunes, but this has been mentioned all along [in the Talmud. Tragedies occurred] "not because we didn't keep Shabbat. Not because we didn't worship G-d. We hated each other. Jewish intolerance has become unbearable.

"After 30 years of study, I've come to the conclusion that the Zohar is our only salvation." Zohar and tolerance: "Jews: clean up your act! Don't be anti-Semitic."

Despite statements suggesting the opposite, "if it's anything I can be accused of, it's that I'm one of the most pro-Semitic rabbis around. Anyone can sit down here without a kippah on his head. And we don't care where he comes from."

As for those who have been turned off by the centre, "everyone sees things through their own eyes, and they have a right to. Anyone can be hurt. Our philosophy is to try to remove hurt. We're sorry if we did [hurt anyone]."

Even negative publicity has helped attract new followers, he said. "So Kabbalah is a good business? As long as we don't steal; as long as we try not to hurt people. It's inevitable that we can't avoid it.

"But we try. We try."

Perhaps the last word should be left to the centre's students and one former student.

Although he's no longer an active member, Stephen Glass, a former executive director of the centre, credits it for bringing him back to Judaism.

Prior to his coming to Kabbalah, Glass said he was drawn to yoga, transcendental meditation and eastern mysticism.

Then he read Rabbi Berg's book, *Reincarnation, The Wheels of a Soul*, "and I thought, 'Holy crow!' It seemed so logical."

Learning at the Kabbalah Centre "unleashed a hidden Judaism in me. It taught me a lot about myself. I became more religious and I also learned to take control of my life. It helped me to appreciate my fellow Jew."

Perhaps Orly Sibilia Grundman, a 31-year-old publisher, best sums up the feelings of many of the Kabbalah Centre's students. "It has provided me two things: A sense of peace and a sense of control — that there is rhyme and reason to the universe," she said. "It has brought everything into focus. And I have become a better Jew for it."

"Aaron" (not his real name) studied at the centre for 18 months and says he spent thousands of dollars on books and tapes. It was the centre's teachings that convinced him to investigate Orthodoxy but now, he told *The CJN* pointedly, the centre is "dealing with powers that shouldn't be dealt with."

At first, "everything was very impressive. Everything made sense to me. They were in synch with what I knew about spirituality.

"But then I did a little outside reading and I started to realize that to know Kabbalah, you need to be at a level of personal development where you're almost flawless as a human being.

"They never mention that. They don't talk about kashrut, mitzvot or tefilah [prayer]. They never mention G-d. They talk about a light, about power.

"They offer instant gratification and instant answers. They're selling an instant pill. Well, I discovered there's no free lunch. You have to work at it."

Aaron said he doesn't regret his time at the centre "but I don't recommend it either."

"Others do, however, because these are troubled times, times which require special effort and perhaps a different approach. So like so many other things in the Jewish community, ultimately, the allure of the Kabbalah Centre is in the eye of the beholder. Maybe Julius Caesar was on to something when he said, "Men willingly believe what they wish."

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Rival companies unite to combat drug Bill C-91

By FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO — Controversial drug bill C-91, which extends the patent on brand name drugs by an additional three to 13 years, has united long-standing rival companies, at least in their unilateral condemnation of the new bill.

Five Canadian generic drug manufacturers including heavyweights Apotex and Novopharm launched a lawsuit late last year to prevent the passing of Bill C-91. The lawsuit was stymied by its timing, which was deemed premature. Now that C-91 has passed into law, political action seems to hold more promise than pursuing the lawsuit.

"We're hoping that there won't be another Conservative government in this country for 1,000 years," says Barry Sherman, president of Apotex, the largest Canadian-owned firm in the pharmaceutical field. "We're hoping that the next government will act responsibly and reinstate compulsory licensing."

Under compulsory licensing manufacturers were able to introduce generic drugs seven to 10 years after the brand name drug hit the market, and were required to pay a four percent royalty fee.

Sherman charges that Prime Minister Brian Mulroney "has not only possibly doomed the health care system in Canada but foisted the same thing on the whole world.... By Canada going along with NAFTA, we forced Mexico to go along with it too, and now those three nations have an understanding that compulsory licensing will be gone, and they're going to force every other country that joins to do the same thing, which will make health care unaffordable throughout Central and South America and eventually throughout the whole world. A lot of people are going to die, I think, and suffer as a result of Bill C-91."

Barry Sherman

"The argument is that Canada should have the same patent laws as the rest of the world," says Leslie Dan, president of Novopharm, "and we reply that the laws in Canada should reflect the interest of the people here. If the brand name companies have seven to 10 years of exclusivity, that's enough to recover the research and development cost."

Dan finds it ironic that "provincial governments are strapped for cash to pay for medical care, while the Clinton administration has taken very strong intervention to lower drug prices." He attributes the Canadian phenomenon to heavy lobbying by foreign-owned companies, such as American-owned drug giant Merck Frosst, with Canadian headquarters in Montreal.

Sherman disputes Merck's claim that C-91 will attract foreign investment. "It's a big joke, because the multi-national companies invest very little in Canada in relation to their sales. All it means is more money taken out of the country and less jobs."

In what might appear to be an attempt to offset the effects of C-91, this year, for the first time, Novopharm signed an agreement to distribute Famotibine, a generic version of the ulcer drug Pepcid, both manufactured by Merck.

[Cont'd. on page 11]

Merck Frosst says controversial drug Bill C-91 is necessary

By DAVID LAZARUS

MONTREAL — Michael Tarnow thinks it's about time he got his two cents in too.

Tarnow is the president of Canada's largest and most profitable brand-name pharmaceutical company, Merck Frosst Canada Inc. And he thinks the brand-name drug industry has gotten a bum rap over Bill C-91, the new law that makes generic drug makers wait anywhere from three to 13 more years before bringing copycat drugs into the marketplace.

In December, Novapharm Ltd. and Apotex Inc., Canada's two largest generic drug firms, launched a law suit to block final passage of C-91.

The companies fear C-91 will raise the price of drugs to consumers, force generic companies out of business, and even sound the death knell for universal health care in Canada.

Tarnow, however, in a recent interview with *The CJN*, ardently defended the law as necessary to attract global investment and to eliminate an unfair advantage generic firms have enjoyed in Canada compared to every other Western country.

"In every major trading nation in the world, intellectual property is protected — but in Canada there was less protection," said Tarnow. "They've had a leg up.

"We have no objection to generic companies entering the market," he stressed, "but only after a fair period of patent protection.

"You can't expect Merck Frosst to invest millions without the same protection that exists in every western country."

Merck Frosst and other brand name companies, he insisted, are entitled to the extra patent protection and profits because generic firms simply do not assume the same risks as Merck Frosst and other brand-name companies.

Merck Frosst, he pointed out, employs 1,800 Canadians and has spent millions of dollars — more than $400 million (in sales) — "investing in Canada" through scientific research and by developing drugs that take up to a dozen years to bring to the market.

Vasotec, a drug marketed by Merck to treat high blood pressure, is an example. Merck spent years developing Vasotec and it had to undergo stringent clinical trials and studies before finally arriving in drugstores in 1987.

Apotex planned to to produce the generic version, enalapril, by 1994, but the company now has to wait until the patent expires in 2007.

This is only right, argued Tarnower, since research does not always pay off.

The new law, he said, simply "levels the playing field" with other countries. And the estimated $500 million more the brand name industry will reap because of C-91 will be reinvested in Canada, he said.

What bothers Tarnow more than just a little is the perception created through the media and by generic companies that they are "altruistic" defenders of universal health care and the Canadian public.

But Tarnow said generic companies have also made huge profits because they spend no money on researching new drugs — just on copying existing ones.

He also said that Canadians pay far more for most copycat drugs than do Americans whom the Canadian generic companies export to — an average of 116 percent. "So Robin Hood is not really Robin Hood after all."

Brand names drugs may cost the consumer more, but their prices are fair and are monitored by the Patent Medicine Price Review Board, he added

The new law will in the short term add, Tarnow said, $125 million to the overall cost of health care to Canadians — and some estimates are much higher. But Tarnow said this will be more than offset by eventual savings made possible by using profits to create drugs for afflictions that strike most Canadians, cancer and cardiovascular disease, and that drain the health care system.

Tarnow came well armed to counter C-91's critics.

No, he said, Merck Frosst Canada — a subsidiary of the New Jersey-based giant, Merck and Co., Inc. — is no less "Canadian" than the generic companies, and it invests millions of R&D and job dollars in Canada. "We're multi-national, but so are they [the generic companies]."

No, he insisted, it is not true that "fewer than half" the number of forecast pharmaceutical industry jobs materialized over 10 years as a result of changes enacted since 1987.

"The number of jobs cited as created — 1,200 — was the total in 1990, after only three or four years.

"The number is now 2,200 and we're less than half way there."

No, he said, government ministers did not meet "secretly" with American Merck officials to work together on C-91 in return for its support of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

"[Trade Minister] Michael Wilson also met with the generics, so that allegation is bunk," noted Tarnow.

But yes, Tarnow did concede, some generic drugs will eventually be two-thirds cheaper than their brand-name counterparts, but only after the full patent period expires. Usually, he said, the price disparity is closer to 25 percent.

Tarnow also put forward a challenge of his own to the generic companies.

"How many patents," he wanted to know, "has Novapharm produced in its lab?"

Since 1987, Tarnow said, "our industry has invested $1 billion in research and development, and we are the largest funder of bio-medical research in Canada."

In Montreal, Merck-Frosst completed a state-of-the-art research lab — one of only seven in the world — that he said will certainly reap untold benefits for health care in Canada and for people all over the world.

Rival

[Cont'd. from page 10]

Sherman, whose company already had its own generic version of Pepcid on the market before Novopharm's agreement with Merck, strongly disapproves. "It's an enormous rip-off of those who pay for brand name products, and it's designed to get both ends of the market and prevent us from growing. I was quite upset with Leslie, because it really is a betrayal of what we stand for, which is Canadian manufacture. We have always opposed this pseudo-generic concept, because it's unfair to us and it's unfair to consumers."

For the consumer, the price difference between a brand name drug and its generic counterpart is between 30 and 50 percent, says Dan.

Leslie Dan

"I know that Apotex doesn't like this arrangement," Dan told *The CJN* in a separate interview. He writes off Sherman's censure as sour grapes and is confident that this type of arrangement benefits everybody: "The advantage is that we have access to a number of products which we may not have in our development program or [on which] we might be slightly delayed. The disadvantage is that [our] profit margin is somewhat less as opposed to making [the drug] ourselves, but the price is definitely less than the name brand" (albeit only 20 to 25 percent less, compared to 30 to 50 percent for one of Novopharm's own generic product). Dan said that prices could eventually drop with increased competition.

Dan and Sherman agree that greater competition in the marketplace is good. "You just can't have monopolies on essential goods," says Sherman. "Governments, I think, have a duty to ensure that essential goods are available at fair prices, and the only system that's ever been found that accomplishes that is compulsory licensing."

Not only was compulsory licensing done away with under C-91, but the new bill was passed retroactive to December 20, 1991, which is a prime source of contention for the generic manufacturers.

"We have probably as many as 20 licenses issued after December 20, 1991, which become null and void, and thereby the public will be deprived access to these medications at a lower price," Dan said.

Sherman says there was no reason whatsoever for the bill to be retroactive.

Dan says that despite C-91, Novopharm has enough products on line to keep its 100 person-strong research and development division busy. "We really don't know how they will be affected in the long term, though. The probability is that unless we find some new work, we will likely require fewer people," he said.

Sherman said that Apotex, on the other hand, having just completed a major expansion, is still seeking employees.

But Apotex is not without its problems. The firm has abandoned the site of its new research facility in Winnipeg, in which it had already invested $20 million, but it is still involved in research at another Winnipeg location.

"Bill C-91 is going to take away significant market opportunities, reduce our profitability, and reduce our ability to reinvest and to grow," said Sherman.

That doesn't mean that companies such as Apotex and Novopharm are finished, Sherman says. Although he is adamant that Novopharm's agreement with Merck does not mark the beginning of a trend, he pointed out that other opportunities are available to the generic firms.

Both Apotex and Novopharm are involved in cancer research, for example. Developing new export markets is another possible strategy, says Dan. "We have to come up with new ideas."

Trustee's apology accepted

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — B'nai Brith and Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) have grudgingly accepted an apology from a school trustee who made an anti-Semitic remark, even though the trustee doesn't think the remark was anti-Semitic.

Three days of pointed statements came to a head last week at a stormy, three-hour meeting of the North York Board of Education, at which trustee Stephnie Payne refused to apologize again for her remarks about Jews.

Only hours before, Payne read an apology before reporters for comments "which can only be correctly characterized as anti-Semitic." Payne she could only "try" to apologize "because mere words cannot fully describe the depth of sorrow I feel for those hurtful comments.

"They are offensive, in particular, to members of the Jewish community. My comments are, as well, offensive to members of other communities, to members of the black community and also to the constituents of my ward who placed their trust in me when they elected me.

"I wish to state as clearly as words would allow that such comments are out of character [for] me."

The controversy stemmed from remarks Payne made on the CTV National News March 7, when a story aired on the staging in North York of the musical *Showboat*, which blacks say denigrates them.

Payne was quoted as saying that "most of the plays that portray blacks or any other ethnic group in a negtive way is always done by a white man and always usually a Jewish person is doing plays to denigrate us." The remark was an apparent reference to the show's producer, Garth Drabinsky and its co-author, Oscar Hammerstein, and for many was an old anti-Semitic canard that Jews control Hollywood.

Neverthless, CJC Ontario region chair Gerda Frieberg accepted Payne's apology and said the matter "is closed."

But at that night's meeting, Board of Education chair Elsa Chandler introduced a motion asking Payne to apologize again, specifically, to the board, its trustees and staff. Chandler said Payne "brought dishonor to this board."

Payne refused and a heated debate followed.

Shouts of "You want your pound of flesh" were hurled at trustees. One black man said that Judah Benjamin, one of Canada's earliest Jewish settlers, kept over 100 black slaves.

Public opinion ranged from asking for Payne's resignation to complete agreement with her remarks about Jews.

Payne said reaction to her statement from North York Mayor Mel Lastman, who called for Payne's resignation and for her to be hauled before the Human Rights Commission, was "racist."

"I still feel my statement was not anti-Semitic," Payne said. She explained she issued the apology because she appreciated how the comment was hurtful to Jews. "They have a right to feel that way," she said.

That brought demands for clarification from several Jewish trustees.

Trustee Gerri Gershon said she was "distraught and sad" at the apparent contradiction in Payne's feelings. That was echoed by trustees David Young, Mae Waese, David Caplan and Shelley Stillman.

The sole Jewish trustee to defend Payne was Errol Young.

The motion for Payne to apologize to the board was carried and her earlier apology to the press was entered into the record.

The meeting then dissolved into confusion and was adjourned.

Despite Payne's feelings, her apology should be accepted, said Karen Mock, director of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights.

"The hurt in the Jewish community is real and while there's still confusion, we must move on," Mock said.

Frieberg said Payne had confused matters "even more. We're troubled but her apology was sincere. Now let's move on."

"Blacks will do everything necessary to stop the promotion and production of *Showboat*," said black activist Dudley Laws.

Change in claim policy

MONTREAL — The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany has announced a change in the procedure for the filing of claims by Jewish Nazi victims residing in Canada for compensation from the "Article 2 fund." Henceforth requests for applications as well as completed applications should be mailed to:

Claims Conference — Article 2 Fund, 15 East 26th St., New York, N.Y. 10010.

The complete applications (printed on pink paper) should be filled out in English and mailed in duplicate.

The "Article 2 Fund" applications which were already mailed to the claims conference office in Frankfurt will be forwarded to New York for processing.

Eligible to file claims under the "Article 2 Fund" are severely persecuted Jewish Nazi victims who received no compensation or only minimal indemnification who can prove that they were at least six months in concentration camps, or 18 months in ghettos, or 18 months in hiding under inhumane conditions.

Such Nazi victims are also eligible even if they received one-time payments of up to DM 5,000 under the German Federal Indemnification Law (BEG) or from the Claims Conference Hardship Fund, or payments in excess of DM 5,000 for extended incarceration.

Individuals who receive pensions under the German Federal Indemnification Law are not eligible.

These funds will be distributed by the Claims Conference "Article 2 Fund" within the framework of a German hardship fund.

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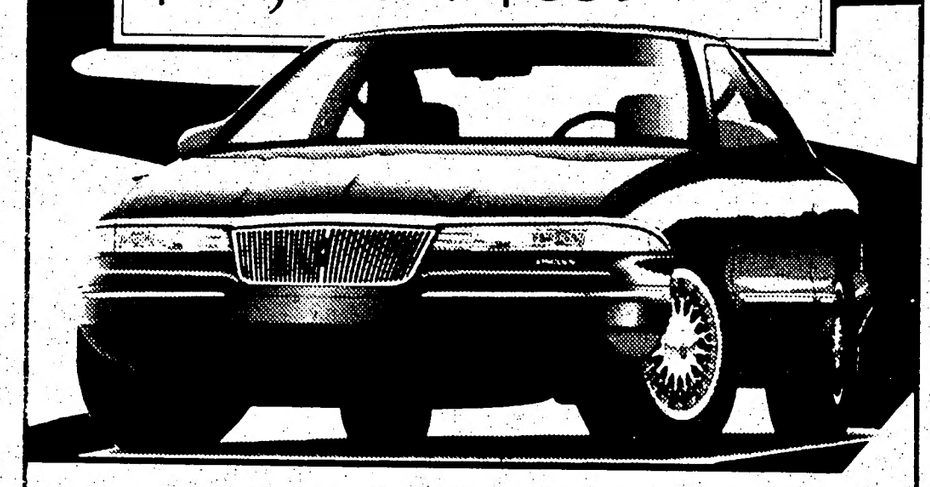

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The News in Brief

Police probe swastika ads

BONN — Police have opened an investigation into an advertising campaign that has used swastikas and other Nazi symbols to promote products of a Nuremberg-based food company.

A police spokesman in Erfurt said it is not known yet whether the Nazi symbols were included intentionally.

Printed materials with the Nazi symbols have been circulated in hundreds of thousands of households in the state of Thuringia.

McDonald's in food fight

JERUSALEM — McDonald's has filed an official complaint against Israel for its efforts to prevent the company from importing its own potatoes for franchises slated to open here by the end of next year.

The company filed the complaint with the U.S. government on grounds that Israel was obstructing free trade and that Israeli potatoes do not meet the standards for its famous french fries.

Israel's Agriculture Ministry has denied the charge, claiming it has been co-operative and will arrange for the chain's brand of potatoes to be grown in Israel.

McDonald's has begun issuing franchises to local businessmen throughout Israel. But it has insisted that it be allowed to import its own fries or have Israel farmers grow a new strain of potatoes to meet its strict standards.

Quota on Arab building

JERUSALEM — A strict government quota on Arab housing construction in Jerusalem has been in effect for two decades to keep the Arab population in check, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

Labor and Likud governments have both enforced the quota, which tried to ensure that the Arab population did not rise far above the 26 percent share it constituted when Jerusalem was reunited in 1967.

The ministerial committee on Jerusalem first ordered a strict limit on growth on Jerusalem's Arab sector in 1973, said deputy mayor Avraham Kahila when asked about the quota.

The guidelines permit building only to meet the "natural growth" of the city's Arab population, and no additional housing construction for Arabs who choose to move to the city, according to Kahila.

Fourth American arrested

JERUSALEM — Israel has arrested a Palestinian American in the West Bank village of Ramallah for engaging in anti-Israeli activities.

Reports said the man, from Pennsylvania, the fourth American of Palestinian origin recently arrested by Israel, was suspected of involvement with militant Islamic fundamentalists groups, the same accusation made of the three other U.S. citizens detained.

Amichai now in Chinese

TEL AVIV — Renowned Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai celebrated in Beijing the publication of his work in Chinese.

"I am happy to know that there are now one and a quarter billion people who can read my poems," Amichai said.

He was speaking at a reception attended by a gathering of writers, scholars, diplomats and Chinese students of Hebrew.

Songs of Jerusalem, Selected Poems of Yehuda Amichai is a collection of more than 180 works, translated by Chinese scholar Fu Haoa. The Chinese academic chanced upon an English edition of Amichai's book *Amen* and decided to translate Amichai into Mandarin Chinese.

* * *

Terrorist to be freed

BONN — Abbas Hamadei, a Lebanese sentenced in Germany to 13 years in jail for terrorist acts, is expected to be released and deported from Germany next summer, seven years ahead of schedule, the German Press Agency reported.

The planned release is reportedly part of a deal worked out last year to secure the release of two Germans who had been held hostage for three years in Lebanon, the German agency said.

Abbas Hamadei was imprisoned for his role in the kidnapping of two other Germans in an attempt to free his brother Mohammed.

Mohammed Hamadei is serving a life sentence for the June 1985 hijacking of a TWA plane and the murder of one of its passengers, U.S. Navy diver Robert Sterham.

* * *

Far-right gains in polls

BONN — Electoral gains by the far-right Republican party, widely associated with neo-Nazi groups, has caused concern within the German Jewish community.

The Republicans won 8.3 percent of the popular vote in city and district elections held in the western state of Hesse.

In Frankfurt, where the Republicans scored 10 percent of the vote, many Jews joined in a spontaneous demonstration against the Republicans in front of the Town Hall.

Frankfurt, a transportation, banking, and tourist centre of Germany, is also home to the country's second-largest Jewish community.

* * *

Russian jewels shine

TEL AVIV — The Imperial Russian crown jewels, which have never before been shown to the public outside the former Soviet Union, have gone on display at the Israel Diamond Exchange in Ramat Gan.

The exhibition, billed as The Treasures of Russia, comprises 150 rough and cut diamonds and other precious stones, historical objects from the 18th and 19th centuries and a wealth of gold and silver artifacts.

The jewelry, on display at the diamond exchange's Harry Oppenheim Museum, was largely the work of a number of European jewelers who went to the Czarist court to ply their craft.

* * *

CZF convention

MONTREAL — Kurt Rothschild, national president of the Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF), has announced the postponement of the seventh CZF National Convention to November 7th and 8th, 1993.

"We were only recently advised that Prime Minister Rabin has called on Jewish communities all over the world to convene in Jerusalem May 17th — 19th to express their loyalty to Jerusalem in a grand celebration of Jerusalem Day," Rothschild explained.

"As a result, the leadership of the World Zionist Organization, whom we had invited to attend our convention, will not be available, and we therefore felt compelled to postpone the convention."

In addition, the convention site has been shifted from Montreal to Toronto.

Topics at the convention will include Zionism in the 90s and Campus Youth. It will bring together the leadership of numerous community organizations and youth movements.

* * *

Pressure on UN

NEW YORK — Jewish leaders pressed United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali for enactment of a resolution specifically condemning anti-Semitism, something the UN has never done in nearly fifty years of existence.

"Neither the UN nor its Commission on Human Rights has yet to condemn in any resolution anti-Semitic incitement to hatred or specific acts of anti-Semitism, whether in isolation or in conjunction with the more general phenomena of racism, intolerance and xenophobia", stated Edgar Bronfman, president of World Jewish Congress (WJC).

Bronfman, accompanied by WJC secretary general Israel Singer and U.S. chair Evelyn Sommer, met with Boutros-Ghali at UN headquarters. They then received Madeleine Albright, America's UN ambassador, at WJC headquarters for further discussions.

Bronfman said the push for condemnation of anti-Semitism comes at a time of renewed, widespread incidents of an anti-Jewish nature, particularly in Europe. In the past year, European governments specified anti-Semitism as a human rights offence for the first time.

Boutros-Ghali said this issue may be taken up at the UN Human Rights Summit in June. He pledged his continued involvement in the plight of Syrian Jews as well as the unresolved question of Israeli MIA's.

* * *

Pawlowski gets more costs

TORONTO — The federal government must pay an additional $151,000 in legal costs to Michael Powlowski, the Renfrew, Ont. man who was cleared last year of war crimes.

The Ontario Court of Appeal last week dismissed on a technicality an appeal of a lower court's ruling that Ottawa pay Pawlowski's legal bill.

Federal government lawyers can try to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Earlier, the government voluntarily paid Pawlowski about $55,000.

Powlowski, 75, was charged in 1989 with taking part in the murder of over 400 Jews during World War II. The crown dropped the charges after a judge refused to allow videotaped evidence to be played to jurors.

Front Line

A conversation with Jonathan Pollard

By RABBI AVI WEISS

Jonathan Pollard was not prepared for the news I brought him last week during an impromptu and unscheduled visit to Marion Penitentiary.

This most recent visit with Jonathan Pollard was the most difficult since I began visiting him in August 1988. I had to bring him the news that the National Jewish Community Relations Council (NJCRAC) had voted not to send a letter to President Clinton asking for a review of Pollard's case with an eye toward commutation. I knew Jonathan would be disappointed, deeply disappointed; and I didn't want him to suffer alone.

We embraced and sat opposite each other. I reached out to hold his hand as I always do throughout my visits, in order to provide the simple human connection that Jonathan's solitary confinement denies him, as it is intended to do.

Within minutes I told him, "Jonathan, we were turned down by NJCRAC."

His head dropped; his eyes glistened; we sat in silence. My thoughts wandered to the delegate from Miami who had risen in the NJCRAC debate to declare about Jonathan, "I feel absolutely no moral or legal obligation to help a common criminal." Sitting in silence near Jonathan, I thought of the callousness of that remark and the absence of any mercy toward a fellow Jew that it shamelessly revealed.

Gradually Jonathan began to share his pain. "I feel punch drunk. I've been in battle for eight years, every day is a battle. Every day I rise is a victory. Sometimes the depression is so deep I can't get up, I don't feel like going on. I make it only because of determination; I know the consequences of surrender.

"I've survived by not personalizing the case. If I took this personally I would have ground up a long time ago," Jonathan declared. "This is not just a case of Jonathan Pollard but one of Jewish empowerment."

Soon Jonathan's words began to flow. His immediate reaction, one of emotional despondency, gave way to fury at NJCRAC's action. The theme he returned to over and over was that of empowerment, specifically, who speaks for the Jewish community?

"I'm proud and deeply thankful for all the support I did receive from various NJCRAC delegates. I know it's difficult to stand up and speak truth to power. The vote established the fact that even in an organization whose leadership has been so evil toward me the membership is making its views felt. This can only be for the good as far as the Jewish community is concerned.

"What should be kept in mind is that the grassroots Jewish community is not divided on this issue," Jonathan explained. "The vote, which revealed a badly divided NJCRAC, clearly suggests that the organization does not reflect the Jewish community's consensus toward me. The propriety of my low opinion of many in NJCRAC leadership has been reconfirmed.

"In the final analysis this vote did more to discredit NJCRAC than it did to hurt me. It's time for representative government in the Jewish community. The vote is a slap in the face of the ordinary Jew, the rabbinate and over 100 other secular organizations which have come to my defense. I think it's time for the Jewish community to draw some lessons from NJCRAC's disdain for it."

And then Jonathan laughed. There he was in the hell-hole of Marion, having just heard the devastasting news that NJCRAC had abandoned him, and he laughed. Besides, Jonathan declared, "I don't want to be confused with anyone who actually takes them seriously. True, I'm concerned about what message this sends to the president. If NJCRAC doesn't want to deal with this issue why should the president?" He paused and then said forcefully, "We'll just have to rededicate our efforts to show the president what the grassroots community thinks about this case."

I showed Jonathan the *Jewish Telegraphic Agency* (JTA is the world Jewish news agency) story on the vote. He became livid: "JTA has been writing pieces as if it is a spokesman for the Federations. I'm not asking for panegyrics but JTA has an obligation to the Jewish community to share the hard news of this case. They made little and most often no mention of resolutions drafted on my behalf by the Canadian Jewish Congress, the British Board of Deputies, Hadassah, the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists. They've spiked all that information. I've sent these resolutions and other information to Jewish editors around the country. Many have written me and asked, 'Why wasn't this picked up by the JTA'?"

It seemed to Jonathan that JTA was excessively concerned with the suffering of NJCRAC leadership. "Imagine quoting NJCRAC delegates who spoke of being unfairly criticized by 'Pollard activists' without reporting the other side, without pointing out the reasons for the criticism. It was not what Phil Baum (chair of the NJCRAC ad hoc Pollard committee) and his colleagues did not do, but what they did do — against me."

Jonthan told me that he had in mind two of Baum's actions in particular. Baum responded to the Oct.23, 1992 full page ad in *The New York Times* signed by 570 rabbis and 65 rabbinic organizations urging former President Bush to comute Jonathan's sentence, by declaring that, "The Pollard issue is not a Jewish one and this ad does not make it one." Baum also upbraided Dr. Edward M. Goldberg of the Humana Hospital in Chicago, Ill. for supporting in court Anne Pollard's claim that she had received poor medical attention in prison. The incident was widely reported in Anglo-Jewish papers but ignored by the JTA.

"The reporter," Jonathan continued "left unchallenged Rabbi Eric Yoffie's (vice president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations) statement that others have been sentenced as harshly as me. Nonsense. I'd like to know which sentence was comparable to mine."

The JTA piece portrayed NJCRAC leaders as the victims and Pollard and his supporters as the victimizers. But while they go home every night; Jonathan is in his eighth year of solitary confinement in the toughest prison in this country.

Time was passing quickly. We spoke of family, of dreams. I had brought my tefillin. In recent months Jonathan had not donned them. Overzealous guards would split the boxes open and Jonathan could not endure their desecration. This time, however, he felt inclined to put them on. As he stood and recited the Shema, I said the prayer I say daily: "God in heaven, bless Jonathan Pollard; sustain him, carry him and help him move from darkness to light, from imprisonment to freedom."

I could hear the clang of the outer doors. The guard was coming to escort me out. Seven hours had passed quickly and the visit was over.

I looked into Jonathan's eyes. Kabbalists say that the eyes are the gateway to the soul, they reveal true inner feelings. I could see that Jonathan had been wounded, deeply wounded, and was reaching deep into his soul for the energy to go on.

As I left the prison — the 28th time I had been there visiting Jonathan — it occurred to me that no member of the NJCRAC Pollard committee had ever visited him. I wish those NJCRAC delegates would only look into his eyes.

Rabbi Weiss is the personal rabbi of Jonathan Pollard; national president of The Coalition for Jewish Concerns — Amcha and senior rabbi of The Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, N.Y.

Groups fall prey to anti-Israel ideologues

By ANDREA LEVIN

Professional associations, including teachers groups, medical organizations and college-level academic societies have found themselves and their publications prey to anti-Israel ideologues, often small in number, within their ranks. Last July the 52,000 member American Library Association (ALA) voted to condemn Israel for banning books, closing universities and libraries, and ejecting journalist. (Summoned by the resolution sponsors to attest to these alleged villainies was Michal Schwartz, an erstwhile member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a radical PLO faction responsible for numerous terrorist killings).

While the ALA professes to deplore censorship everywhere, claiming that it "will address the grievances of foreign nationals where the infringement of their rights of free expression is clearly a matter in which all free people should now show concern," only Israel has been singled out in these sessions for criticism. That West Bank and Gaza Arabs actually enjoy a freer press than do their brethren in the Arab world was, not surprisingly, a point omitted from the ALA statements, as was any rebuke of neighboring Arab governments, every one of which exercises censorship.

Thus, no resolution expressed ALA unhappiness with the Egyptian government, which last spring sentenced novelist Alaa Hamed to eight years imprisonment on the gounds his book slandered Islam. He was sentenced before his lawyers could present a defence. In addition, according to the February, 1992, *Index on Censorship*, Egypt censors newspapers, books, magazines, movies, plays, radio, TV and videos.

The ALA's denunciations also made no mention of the context in which Israel might be required for security reasons to curtail incendiary writings and gatherings in the West Bank and Gaza. No note was made of the distribution in these areas of inflammatory and anti-Semitic teaching materials, books and videos. For example, among publications confiscated by Israeli authorities in the city of Hebron in 1989 was a large press run of a booklet that urged Arab students to learn "heroic dates to be commemorated." The dates included those for the 1972 Munich massacre of Israeli athletes, the 1974 Nahariya terrorist attack, and so on.

The ALA resolutions offer no acknowledgement that closure of West Bank universities (none of which even existed prior to Israel's control of the territory) occured in response to the political incitement and violence originating in them. Indeed, even the Palestinian newspapers *Al-Quds* acknowledged that during certain periods "actual academic activity [has comprised] less than one percent of the overall agenda of the campuses." Particularly odd is the fact that the ALA resolution came when Israel had reopened the universities, a process that had been underway for two years.

The ALA's anti-Israel cast has been reflected in its publications in recent years. Zoia Horn, a former chair of the ALA's Intellectual Freedom committee, argued in the January, 1992, *American Libraries* that the organization had been remiss in its failure to indict Israel sooner and more severly. In an inversion George Orwell would have appreciated, she demanded to know why the ALA does not "treat Israeli censorship in the same way it treats that of other nations."

That is precisely the question, without the Orwellian twist, that Stephen Karetzky, a professor of library science, raised nearly eight years ago, in 1985 when the ALA was evincing the same hostile fixation with Israel. In an article in *Midstream* in which he termed the ALA's hectoring of Israel "crazy," Karetzky chronicled the unbalanced criticism of Israel as compared to that of other nations whose restrictions of intellectual freedoms were far graver.

The radical tenor of the ALA's denunciations of Israel almost certainly springs less form the sentiment of the general membership than from the views of a determined few. Indeed, the 1992 condemnations were voted on by less than one percent of the membership. Chicago reference librarian David Williams, co-ordinator of the committee on Israeli Censorship, and ALA subgroup that gathers "documentation for examination by the ALA," has spearheaded the anti-Israel campaign. (Do parallel committees exist to monitor Arab states, Myanmar/Burma, Sri Lanka, China, Kenya, North Korea, India/Kashmir, Northern Ireland and Britain?)

Writing in an ALA bulletin, *International Leads*, Williams describes his "campaign" to document and denounce the supposed evils of Israeli censorship, but he alludes to far higher stakes. He makes clear the real struggle is that for the minds and hearts of America's librarians, who influence, through book acquisitions and recommendations to readers, the information used by the wider public.

Williams recently unveiled, in a "select bibliography" he assembled on The Palestinian/Israeli Conflict, the kinds of purchases and recommendations he would have his colleagues make. This listing of publications, which is available to librarians and to the public, is an official document of the Social Sciences and History Division of the Chicago Public Library, bearing the imprimatur of the City of Chicago. An appalling one-sided inventory of pro-Arab, pro-Palestinian books and periodicals, the bibliography mocks the responsibility of librarians to offer wide-ranging and complete information. In its exclusion of all but a few mainstream Israeli views, the bibliography makes a further travesty of the ALA's charges of Israeli censorship.

The sorry account is more than just the spectacle of a splinter group of ill-intentioned, politicized librarians condemning Israel. It raises more serious questions, such as why a responsible organization has repeatedly allowed itself to be used for extremist attacks against the Jewish state, and whether the general membership will eventually be swayed by the repeated slanders bearing ALA endorsement to the point of selecting books and periodicals that advance those falsehoods.

(Andrea Levin is national president of CAMERA, The Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America).

Holocaust museums commemorate Yom Hashoah

By ARNOLD AGES

Jews commemorating Yom Hashoah — Holocaust Remembrance Day — this year will have two imposing structures to help them redefine their understanding of the tragic Jewish past. The new structures will also undoubtedly sensitize gentiles to the dangers of insensate hatred of fellow human beings.

In Los Angeles, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre has opened the Beith Hashoah, Museum of Tolerance, a $55-million dollar structure designed not only to reinforce memory but to promote tolerance.

The brainchild of Rabbi Marvin Hier, head of the Wiesenthal Centre (and one-time Vancouver rabbi), the museum was first planned in 1986 and six years later has opened its doors to accolades from diverse sources.

Arnold Ages

Tom Tugend and Herb Brin, writing in *Heritage Southwest Jewish Press* (Feb. 12), point out that the museum's approach is informal, nonpreachy and interactive.

The latest computer and television technology has been used to reconstruct, among other things, a typical Berlin cafe of the 1930s as well as a large selection of documents and artifacts from the Holocaust period. Exhibits in the Tolerance section of the Museum provide subtle messages about the dangers of unmastered racial and religious prejudices.

In Washington, D.C., next month, the great United States Holocaust Memorial Museum will be opening. The museum, notes Michael Berenbaum in *The World Must Know* (Little Brown), a volume to be published in conjunction with the official opening of the structure, does not celebrate the fruits of freedom but the opposite, "the disintegration of civilized values."

The museum's architecture and contents will introduce visitors to the Holocaust "universe". Towers reminiscent of death camp towers, triangular shapes to recall the triangles worn by different people in the concentration camps, glass fissures and twisted skylights to reflect the "rupture of civilization."

The Washington facility will have massive documentation of Nazi crimes against Jews and a special gallery will depict the plight of Jewish children. The Holocaust Museum will have an important research wing, a comprehensive library, photo and film archives and a collection of video testimonials by Holocaust survivors.

The Holocaust museums in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., are important instruments in helping Jews reinforce and hallow the memory of the martyred millions. But the museums will do more than that. They will instruct visitors in the lesson of tolerance for all colors, faiths, and ethnic groups.

Editorial/Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Kuwait's boycott pledge is sliding

After the 1991 Gulf War, a chastened Kuwait assured the United States, its benefactor and defender, that it would reassess its policy with regard to the Arab economic boycott against Israel. The emir of Kuwait, Sheik Jaber al-Sabah, who owes his throne and his legitimacy to the Americans, pledged not to punish foreign companies that invest in Israel, purchase Israeli goods or have owners with "Zionist convictions."

Regrettably, the Kuwaiti government has not lived up to expectations.

Under an informal arrangement entered into by Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, the Kuwait government said it would not rigorously enforce the boycott, according to the American Jewish Congress. In 1990, 4,677 boycott inquries were reported from Kuwait, but in fiscal 1991, only 691 such requests were registered, an obvious sign of progress. However, in 1992, the numbers rose to 2,846. So what we have here is a classic case of backsliding. Kuwait, writes Will Maslow in *Boycott Report*, is falling short of the mark.

Kuwait's retrogressive attitude was blatantly on display yet again during U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's swing through the region last month. When Christopher asked Sheik Jaber al-Sabah to bury the boycott, he refused, reports the *Wall Street Journal*. It's plain that his refusal was, as the American Jewish Congress succinctly put it, "both an insult" to the United States, Kuwait's liberator, and "counter-productive" to the achievement of peace in the Middle East.

Kuwait — which is wholly dependent on the United States to ward off possible Iraqi aggression — should be held to the highest standards of integrity as far as its boycott pledge is concerned. Kuwait promised to jettison the outmoded boycott. The Clinton administration should see to it that Kuwait honors its promise in full — the sooner, the better.

Three books study Canadian Jewry

While the history and development of Canadian Jewry has occasionally occupied the energies of researchers in the United States, the field has been the victim of a kind of benign neglect here in Canada.

That situation is, happily, being rectified as Canadian Judaism becomes an object of historical and sociological excavation among scholars in the Canadian university community. The demographic growth of the Jewish community of Canada and the controversy over the Zundel and Keegstra trials have undoubtedly contributed to this new interest.

Three recent books on various aspects of Canadian Jewry have been published during the last several weeks and they tackle, from diverse prespectives, the rich religious, cultural and social dimensions of that population.

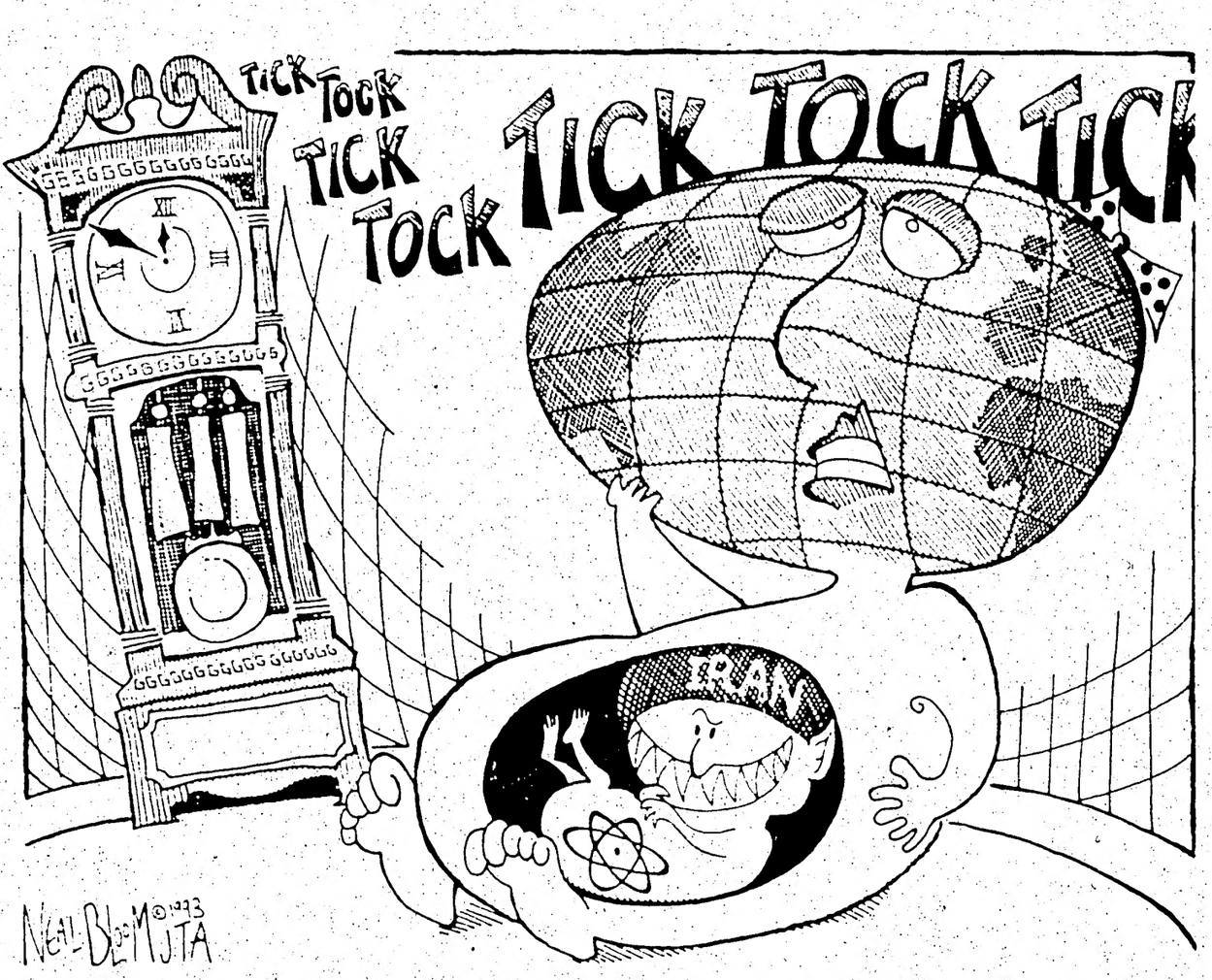
Gerald Tulchinsky's *Taking Root* (Lester) deals with the origin of Canadian Jewry from 1860 to 1920 and presents a pastiche relating to the Jewish presence in Canada from east to west. While dealing with sporadic anti-Semitism, Tulchinsky focuses primarily on the development of Jewish religious, cultural and political institutions within the community.

Equally absorbing is Robert Brym's *The Jews of Canada* (Oxford), a collection of 25 essays which survey, aside from the expected observations on anti-Semitism in this country, subjects which are as important, if less controversial.

Thus the Brym volume contains timely contributions on aging in the Jewish community, demographics, Yiddish, political preferences, marital status, Soviet Jewish edmigrés and Jewish education. This volume is the most important compendium on Canadian Jewish affairs to be published in recent years.

Alan Davies' *Anti-Semitism in Canada* (Wilfrid Laurier Press) is the most disconcerting of the current crop of books on Canadian Jews, not because of the writing or scholarship — which are first-rate — but because of the content. The 11 contributors to this volume show that the non-affiliate virus called anti-Semitism is alive and well in Canada. Alan Davies' magisterial dissection of James Keegstra's noxious brand of anti-Semitism is especially noteworthy.

It is to be hoped that in future years, books published on Canadian Jewry will be able to devote less space to the hate mongers and more to the dynamic religious, cultural and social dimensions of the community.



Letters to the Editor

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

* * *

PLEASE: ESTHER NO DOLL

Is it just me, or did other readers find the photograph on the front page (CJN, Mar. 4) a bit incongruous?

I'm not referring to the children in costume, or their gift baskets, but to the picture on the wall behind them. Queen Esther looks like a Barbi doll: blond, thin facial features, and with an impossibly narrow waist.

Aside from the obvious issue that it's highly unlikely that a queen of the east would have been blond-how many blond Iranians do you know? What disturbs me is the representation of beauty to young Jewish children. We are constantly told by the popular media that physical beauty is only to be had by those who have the right kind of hair, facial features, bodily curves, and youthful appearance. Not surprisingly, the current western ideal of beauty doesn't look Jewish, and this, to me, contributes to the sad fact of the lack of Jewish pride and community ties.

Furthermore, it creates a culture of striving after the impossible ideal, rather than being thankful for the gifts one has naturally. Portraying Queen Esther, famous for her beauty, as a blond Barbi doll sends the message that a lovely appearance can only be had by copying the values of the fashion media, and that's bad news for young Jews who have all kinds of dark hair and different sorts of shapes.

So I'd like to suggest that next time perhaps we could portray Queen Esther as one of us, with a realistic shape and size.

Neal Loevinger
Toronto

THE CHRISTIE HEARING

As the initiator of the complaints to the Law Society of Upper Canada against Douglas Christie I feel compelled to comment on the decision by the chair of the discipline committee, Harvey Strosberg, that no further action be taken on the complaints. In a carefully reasoned and researched 37 page opinion Strosberg deals with legal precedent, the risks incumbent on giving Christie another occasion to promulgate his ideas and the sometimes painful price one pays for allowing freedom of speech no matter how offensive or hateful the comments may be. We can only speculate whether or not Ernst Zundel would have the following he enjoys today had he never been charged.

I frankly would have hoped that a hearing would have taken place so that Christie would have further revealed to those who have not heard him precisely where his sentiments lie.

If one takes the time to carefully read Strosberg's decision there is no question but that Christie has no understanding of his role as an advocate and indeed by his very conduct does violence to the word advocacy. It is apparent that he is unable to draw the line between himself as an advocate and his client. While, perhaps, to some the decision did not go far enough there is no doubt in my mind that now every lawyer and judge in Canada will know Douglas Christie for what he is and most assuredly that made the exercise worthwhile.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada
Toronto

* * *

LAUDS ACTIVISTS

I keep in touch with the activities in the Montreal Jewish community through the *CJN*. In the Jan. 23 issue there were 10 articles on the serious problem of anti-Semitism in Canada. One of the articles was about a demonstration to protest the rise of anti-Semitism. A special Yasher Koach should be given to the activists, especially to Rabbi Spiro who in his retirement retains his high committment to Jewish ideals.

Nathan Yacowar
Montreal

* * *

LOOKING JEWISH

Re: Elaine Kahn's Feb. 25 column, "Doing Jewish more important than being Jewish."

What a shame that Kahn feels that *looking* Jewish is the essence of *being* Jewish. Is her idea of *doing* Jewish putting forth an all-Jews-are-unattracvtive statement that is, of course, erroneous and damaging?

Kahn ought to know better than to apply one label to a group of people, the members of which cannot possibly all fit one description. If a non-Jew were to issue such a gross generalization, he or she would certainly be branded a racist!

Judy Kasman
Toronto

* * *

SAVE OUR EARS

I just wanted to share with your readers a very pleasant experience I had when recently attending a wedding in Toronto. The music was provided by the Zemer Orchestra, and unlike most of their counterparts in New York, the music was not at a decibel level that caused permanent hearing loss. Yet, the ruach was leibedik while at the same time pleasant, pleasing and most enjoyable.

I would hope that New York musicians will learn from this example and not make it necessary for people to actually exit the simcha in order to avoid hearing loss.

Rabbi Ronald L. Gray
Excutive Vice President
Boys Town Jerusalem
New York

* * *

DIFFERS ON MULRONEY

I was astonished to read the article, "Jewish community lauds Mulroney," on page four of your March 4 issue. Irving Abella is out of touch when he suggests "Mulroney should be fondly remembered by Jews in this country."

Are Jews so different than any other group in this country that they should remember with affection the most unpopular PM ever?

Is Professor Abella so circumscribed by his official position as president of CJC that he thinks most Jews judge a prime minister by their affection for Israel rather than by the totality of his bankrupt trickle down economic policies?

Judging Canadian prime ministers solely on their fealty to the state of Israel is a very dangerous game. It is not only myopic but it feeds into anti-Semitic thinking and dangerous stereotypes.

Ted Schmidt
Toronto

Opinion

Judaism connects physical and spiritual healing

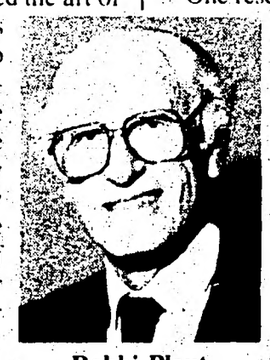
By RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT

I don't know how many readers of this column were privileged to watch the three part series *Healing and the Mind*, hosted by the redoubtable social commentator Bill Moyers. It was broadcast on American public television and I hope it will be repeated in the not-too-distant future.

The message was essentially this: up to now, ailments have been treated primarily with physical means — surgery, drugs, bed rest, alteration of diet, exercise, and the like. But during the past few decades other healing methods have been considered more and more seriously, and it is now generally accepted that the attitude of the patient towards the ailment has an enormous influence on the process of recovery.

The Chinese have apparently known about this for a very long time and have developed a regimen of mental and bodily relaxation which they call Tai-Chi, reputed to enhance the quality of daily living and, if necessary, to heal bodily ailments.

Religious cultures of the Orient, especially Buddhism, have generally encouraged the art of meditation, and in this form it has spread to the West, and especially to California. There, a significant variety of meditative programs have gained thousands of adherents. While their techniques differ somewhat, they all are agreed that the mind properly interacting with the body can change us physically. Thus, the control of bio-feedback can begin to influence or even regulate such functions as our pulse rate and so on. The list is large.



Rabbi Plaut

Of course not everything in this regard has been exactly new. We are acquainted with the unhappy evidence that when we are stressed we are likely to get sick, have ulcers or other physical effects. When we are happy and confident we feel a lot better.

The segment of the Moyers show which stayed in my mind had to do with a group of women with breast cancer treated by surgery; the cancer had recurred and spread. The prognosis for these women was only two years of life.

One researcher divided the group into two: one was given regular treatments like chemotherapy, and the other in addition engaged in sharing sessions which created mutual support and, after a while, a great deal of intimacy. The researcher reported the women in the latter group lived on the average two years longer than those who did not have the sharing sessions. He is now involved in a repetition of the experiment, but of course it takes at least four years before results are available.

Some years ago my old and much admired friend Norman Cousins wrote *Anatomy of an Illness*, which became an instant bestseller. He popularized the notion that laughter and a positive outlook on life could work miracles, and his further writings brought the influence of the mind on the healing process to a wider audience. We have not heard the end of it — perhaps we are only at the beginning.

What has this all to do with a column in *The Canadian Jewish News*? A great deal, because as I see it, Judaism too has recognized this truth for a long time. Several chapters in the book of Leviticus comprise the weekly sidras of Tazri'a and Metsora, and deal with this very subject. Preachers are generally not keen on interpreting these chapters, and bar/bat mitzvah students are not happy when their celebrations coincide with these readings, for they deal with skin diseases of various kinds and instruct the people to be in touch with the priesthood for treatment.

This is the biblical way of connecting the spiritual with the physical. Illness was not something that was merely a state of the body. It affected the mind as well. A proper religious attitude, a profound confidence in the healing process and God's part in it, were essential aspects of this process. The biblical language is different from ours, but this is what the latest attempts in medicine are all about. Do not confuse this with Christian Science, which denies the reality of illness altogether and considers it purely a matter of the mind. Judaism, like most of modern science, takes a different view. We believe in an interrelationship and we do well to pay attention to its opportunities.

Soviet Jewry woes not over: expert

By DEBORAH KALB

The American Jewish community should not be lulled into thinking that the fall of the Soviet Union and the continuing mass emigration of Jews from its successor states mark an end to the problems faced by Jews in the region.

So says Mark Levin, executive director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. He believes people who think the work of the Soviet Jewry advocacy movement is over "are mistaken."

If anything, he said, dealing with 15 separate countries, each with their own regulations, makes the situation "more complicated" for Jews still seeking to emigrate.

Levin, a longtime NCSJ staffer who took over as the group's executive director last fall, discussed the continuing problems facing Jews in the former Soviet republics, in an interview with the *Jewish Telegraphic Service*.

The National Conference serves as the coordinating agency for the organized Jewish community's efforts on behalf of Jews in the former Soviet Union.

In recent months, some in the American Jewish community have questioned the usefulness of maintaining high-profile advocacy efforts for Jews in the ex-Soviet republics in the post-Cold War era.

But Levin strongly contested that view, citing unstable conditions in some of the republics as among the reasons for American Jews to stay involved.

"The National Conference's mandate is a very clear and focused one," he said. "We are not in search of a new mission to keep the organization going.

"To accept the situation inside the former Soviet Union as being the status quo for years to come," he said, "is to put one's head in the sand and not recognize how far the countries of the former Soviet Union have to go to reach fully functioning democratic governments."

The NCSJ, Levin said, remains committed to two goals: helping Soviet Jews emigrate "in as free and unencumbered a manner as possible," and helping those Jews still in the former Soviet lands "learn about their heritage.

"Now is not the time to sit back and pat ourselves on the back for our good work," Levin said. "Now is the time to ensure" that the good that was done "doesn't go to waste."

Levin pointed to continuing barriers to emigration facing Jews in the former Soviet Union, both bureaucratic and political. In the Central Asian republic, for example, unrest has led to a rise in emigration, he said.

Dail Stolow, director of overseas operations for the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, recently returned from a trip to Tajikistan, a Central Asian republic currently torn apart by civil war.

Stolow said that the vast majority of Tajikistan's 4,000 Jews are seeking to emigrate. About 1,000 hope to settle in the United States under the government's family reunification program, and the rest are applying to move to Israel.

The increase in both Islamic fundamentalism and nationalism in Tajikistan have resulted in an "increase in incidents of verbal anti-Semitism and an increase in some physical violence directed at those who are planning to leave," she said.

Stolow said that HIAS officials have met with U.S. government representatives to discuss their trip to Tajikistan and the problems facing the Jewish community there.

"The fact that HIAS went there impressed people with how concerned and serious we are about the community in Tajikistan," Stolow said, adding that U.S. officials are working on expediting the departures of Jews from the remote republic.

Both Stolow and Levin of the National Conference expressed concern over a new Russian emigration law that was scheduled to go into effect in January but has been postponed.

The law would require applicants leaving from Russia to possess a passport from their country of citizenship, Stolow said. Most Jews emigrating from the various republics do so via Moscow's international airport, and therefore would fall under the provisions of the law.

The problem, Stolow explained, is that most of these new countries do not have their own passports yet. In meetings with immigration officials in Tajikistan, HIAS officials suggested that the authorities consider using old Soviet passports stamped with Tajik government emblems as a way around this dilemma.

Levin said that the new emigration law, when it goes into effect, can still be used to deny people the right to emigrate on the grounds that they possess state secrets.

Access to state secrets was one of several pretexts the Soviets used to deny Jews the right to emigrate. Other grounds for refusal was an emigre's so-called "poor relatives" who left behind in the Soviet Union, could become a burden to the state.

Levin explained that this "poor relative" problem could be taken care of in most cases if the new law were interpreted broadly, but if it were interpreted narrowly, it would still cause difficulties.

He said that recently the refusal rate for Jews seeking to leave went up slightly, and that the refusals were based on either access to "state secrets" or the "poor relative" problem.

"We'll have to wait and see how" the new law "is actually implemented" before evaluating it, Levin said. But "the bottom line is that it makes the situation more complicated," because all 15 of the former Soviet countries could implement their own interpretation of the law.

"There are no simple solutions to the issues being faced by the advocacy movement today," he said.

Levin expressed concern about ethnic tensions and economic unrest in the various republics. He said the National Conference is monitoring nationalistic forces in Russia, Ukraine and Central Asia.

In Russia, he said, old-style Communists and ultranationalists are joining together to blame Jews for the economic problems facing the country.

"As we see in other parts of Europe," he said, "nationalism has the potential to be a very destructive force in the former Soviet Union."

Levin, who has worked for the National Conference since 1980, has seen enormous changes in the past 13 years.

He remembers standing outside the gates of the Soviet Embassy in Washington for many years. "Now I am able to go inside the Russian Embassy and be welcomed and hold serious discussions on issues pertaining to Russian Jews," he said.

"I couldn't have predicted the numbers" of Jews "that would come out in my wildest imagination, let alone the collapse of the Communist state," he said.

Levin thought his work at the NCSJ would be "short-term," but once there, he found it "hard to walk away, particularly when the situation was so bad."

While the current situation "may not require large demonstrations," he said, that "doesn't mean we shouldn't continue to be actively engaged in assisting the Jews of the former Soviet Union."

— (JTA)

"On Sabbath you get all the piece you can eat"

By ERICA MEYER RAUZIN

Last year, Queen Esther wore a pink tulle ballet tutu, a badly constructed tinsel crown, a cape made out of a blue chiffon scarf, and a pair of Barbie sneakers. She looked elegant, at least for a five-year-old queen.

But her costume started something that lasted all year and shows no sign of abating: my middle child wants to wear a costume all the time. Purim seems invented for her benefit. This is the fanciful child, the daydreamer, the actress. She would far rather be a princess, a mermaid (pre and post Disney), a fine lady, a witch, a ballerina, than a first grader.

She is oblivious to her shul clothes and school uniform, but she can describe the contents of her dress-up box in complete detail, from the long, spangled silver dress that trails three feet behind her to each pair of sparkly earrings. She has no interest in dresses that don't swirl out flat when she twirls, in nightgowns that don't hang to her ankles, in mundane and ordinary clothing.

Everything must have drama, flair, and flourishes. Swimsuits need ruffles; hats demand hanging ribbons; even sneakers call for cartoon characters, neon laces and glitter trim. The only time she focuses on ordinary clothing is when she is forced to wear it in lieu of a costume. This is a confrontation we have almost every Saturday morning, when — unhampered by any lingering memory of last week's or last month's defeats — she plunges into battle for the right to wear her Bo Peep dress to shul.

Erica Meyer Rauzin

She loves to visit the most Orthodox synagogue in the neighborhood because all the little girls there wear extra-long skirts, giving her leeway to pull something ankle-length from her box of tricks instead of just another nice dress from her closet.

Purim thrills her right down to her gold-lamé bedroom slippers.

This year, one costume won't do. She has mapped out elaborate plans for the holiday. She'll impersonate royalty Friday afternoon at the school purim carnival, carry a wand as a good fairy for the Sunday seudah meal, and don all her jewelry simultaneously to portray a gypsy at the Sunday night party. The only thing that would make her happier would be the addition of three more events that would, of course, demand three more fully-costumed personas.

This child is governed by her own unique perception of the world. She sees logic where there is none, patterns where bedlam reigns, and justice in the details, but never in the big picture. She is loving, contrary, stubborn, smart, and amazingly self-contained; she is six, going on forty. She has an imagination that provides an entirely separate, rich dimension in her life.

I'll give you one example. The children in her Hebrew day school sing a Sabbath song that begins, "Sabbath is a rainbow at the end of the week." One line of the song says, "On Sabbath you will find all the peace that you seek." I heard my daughter singing this around the house last Saturday, but she was singing, "On Sabbath you will find all the peace you can eat."

I admit, I thought that was pretty funny, but I eventually told her, "Honey, it's not 'all the peace you can eat.' You can't eat peace. It's 'all the peace you seek'."

"No, mommy," she told me with complete assurance. "It's like a piece of cake. On Sabbath you get all the piece you can eat."

Now, how can you argue with someone who sees the world that way, especially someone dressed in an embroidered, red "silk" bathrobe and a tinsel halo?

So, on the eve of her favorite holiday, she and her attitude stand prepared, lamé, lurex and face paints at the ready, a childlike Esther, already hinting at the queen she will become when the time is right.

Features

Liv Ullmann and her Jewish connections

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Liv Ullmann's involvement with the film *Sofie* is the culmination of an enduring friendship with the Jewish people.

Sofie, based on a 1932 novel by the Danish Jewish author, Henri Nathansen, revolves around the unfulfilled romantic yearnings of a Jewish woman in late 19th century and early 20th century Denmark. Produced by the world's oldest existing movie studio, Nordisk Film Production, *Sofie*, now playing at Cineplex Odeon theatres, marks Ullmann's debut as a director.

Ullmann is a distinguished stage and screen actress who has worked with Swedish director Ingmar Bergman and who has appeared in such acclaimed films as *Scenes From A Marriage* and *The Emigrants*.

In Toronto recently to promote *Sofie*, Ullmann is the antithesis of a stereotypical glamorous Hollywood performer. She seems guileless, unaffected by stardom and anything but aggressive. Her bluish-green eyes are mesmerizing; her dark blonde hair is combed back simply and held in place by a black satin bow. Clad in black slacks and a loose purple top, she sits on a couch, her legs folded underneath her comfortably. She speaks fairly fluent English — she lived in Toronto and New York during World War II — but there is a noticeable Norwegian lilt in her soft, dreamy voice.

"Not being Jewish, I did my homework for *Sofie*," she said. Ullmann took nothing for granted. "I wanted to get it right. I'll really eat my hat if any of the details of Jewish life are wrong."

In her quest to paint an unerringly accurate picture of a middle-class Danish Jewish family, Ullmann, who is married to an American Jew, immersed herself in Jewish culture. She read voluminously and consulted two rabbis in Denmark, Bent Melchior and Bent Lexner, with whom she became close and shared Sabbath meals.

"I hadn't thought of directing. I wanted to write (she has written two memoirs, *Changing* and *Choices)*, to do my two films a year, and theatre work. But then this novel — *Mendel Philipsen & Son* — was sent to me by Nordisk Film."

The book fascinated her, partly because of its ability to convey the tension between assimilation and tradition in Danish Jewry, and partly because several of its themes appeared so familiar.

"It seems that everything I have experienced in life I can see in the framework of *Sofie*, and it is a wonderful discovery for me." Among other things, she mentioned "tradition that gives you safety; a hand that is outstretched; a child leaving home"; and unrequited love.

According to Ullmann, Erland Josephson, the male lead in the film and one of Sweden's foremost actors, "discovered" his Jewish roots while making *Sofie*. "He was creative and wonderful, and his Jewishness was part of it. He is an assimilated Jew, but he remembered all those (Jewish) things from his childhood. It gave him great pleasure."

Ullmann was also intrigued by Nathansen's novel because it seemed like one more thread in the chain of her Jewish connections.

Her grandfather, Halfdan Ullmann, whom she never met but greatly admires, helped Jews during the German occupation of Norway. For this, he was sent to the Dachau concentration camp in southern Germany, where he perished at the age of 60. He had been a professor and an officer in the Norwegian army.

Years later, in Warsaw, Ullmann met a Polish man who shared a barrack with her grandfather, and, poignantly, he told her about his final days.

Coincidentally or not, Ullmann has portrayed at least two Jewish women in her acting career. After studying drama in Britain, Ullmann made her theatre debut in the title role of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Much later, in a television film, she portrayed the Soviet Jewish Refusenik, Ida Nudel.

Ullmann's links with Jews were further strengthened when, in the 1970s, she visited Auschwitz to narrate a documentary, *Children of the Holocaust*. In 1988, she revisted Auschwitz with an American Jewish delegation. "It's important for Jewish people to go to Auschwitz," she said. "Then Israel would mean even more to them."

Ullmann, who has addressed Jewish federations in the United States on numerous occasions, is a constant visitor to Israel, sometimes in the company of her husband, Donald Saunders, a businessman with interests in real estate and hotels. She met him at a Jewish federation function in Boston 10 years ago, and today, Boston is their home.

Israel impresses Ullmann. "I'm struck by the light of Jerusalem, by the fertility of the desert." She added: "The Israelis really made deserts bloom, and they are surrounded by countries which have not made deserts bloom. I don't agree with everything that happens in Israel. But the spirit of Israel inspires me. And as a Christian, I consider it my homeland, too."

She pointed out that UNICEF (the United Nations Children Fund), of which she is a goodwill ambassador, should not be confused with another UN agency, UNESCO (Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

"Many people confuse UNICEF with UNESCO, whose record on Israel hasn't always been the best. Israel has benefitted from UNICEF. Its record with regard to Israel is untainted."

Ullmann believes that Jews should be more aware of their past. "Unfortunately, a lot of Jewish people are not acquainted with their history."

With reference to the Holocaust, she warned, "If we forget, it'll happen again."

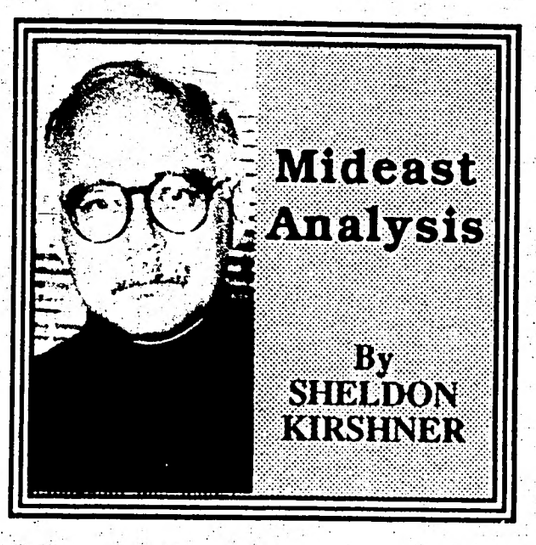
Having lost her grandfather in Dachau and having visited Auschwitz, how does she feel about Holocaust deniers?

Her face tightened. "What can you say? It's appalling. If you've listened to Elie Wiesel even once (Wiesel and Ullmann visited a refugee camp in Cambodia and have been friends ever since), how can you say it? How can you deny the Holocaust?"

Ullman smouldered with anger. "These people," she said of the revisionists, " should be humiliated."

Anti-Semitism, she mused, is growing stronger in Europe. "It's much worse than in North America. It's frightening. Good people will have to be active; to speak more publicly. And always, they have to remember the past."

Liv Ullmann on the set of Sofie with Erland Josephson.



Mideast Analysis

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Lebanon rebuilding

When some 400 Muslim fundamentalists were deported to Lebanon by Israel late last year, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin expected no resistance from the Lebanese government. In the past, Israel had periodically deported Palestinians to Lebanon without incident, and Lebanon had not protested because it was torn, and preoccupied, by a consuming civil war.

But last December, Lebanon surprised and irritated Israel by rejecting the latest batch of deportees. In standing up to Israel, Lebanon caused an international crisis and greatly embarrassed the Israeli government.

"We did not know Lebanon is a state again," confessed an incredulous Haim Ramon, the Israeli health minister, who seemed to be speaking for many of his cabinet colleagues.

Israel's miscalculation, though appalling, may be understandable. Until quite recently, Lebanon had all but ceased to exist as a viable nation. A civil war, which had broken out in 1975, had robbed Lebanon of its vitality and rendered it rudderless. As fighting raged, much of Beirut was reduced to rubble, the economy was badly battered and hundreds of thousands of despairing Lebanese immigrated. Once a paragon of multiculturalism and prosperity, Lebanon slid into bloody-minded brutality.

In 1989, with the signing of the Taif agreement, the fratricidal strife more or less subsided. Political reforms were unveiled. The Lebanese army was reconstituted. Militias, which had terrorized the country, were gradually disbanded. Syria, the predominant foreign power, promised to withdraw its troops from Lebanon.

But, of course, the road back to stability was a tortuous one. Christians and Muslims quarrelled over the accord. Palestinians and Shi'ite Muslims resisted the inroads of the Lebanese army. A Maronite Christian general, Michel Aoun, staged a revolt which, with Syria's help and the United States' connivance, was finally crushed on the eve of the 1991 Gulf War.

Since then, and particularly since the accession of a new government headed by Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, Lebanon has begun to put its house back in order. Hariri, a Sunni Muslim who made a fortune in the construction business in Saudi Arabia, has officially proclaimed the end of the civil war and ushered in "an era of peace and reconstruction."

Hariri, who has the full backing of Syria, has pledged that 1993 will be the year of "rebuilding" Lebanon. He has launched a series of ambitious public works programs designed to revitalize Beirut and rehabilitate Lebanon's infrastructure. He has promised to cleanse Lebanon's notoriously corrupt administration. He has encouraged foreign investment, and urged Lebanese expatriates, some of whom live in Canada, to return. Furthermore, he has donated millions of dollars of his own funds to restore schools, hospitals and historical buildings.

The community of nations is supporting Lebanon's quest for recovery. The International Monetary Fund is considering hefty war-recovery loans. The U.S. Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, visited Beirut last month in a gesture of solidarity. And in yet another vote of confidence in Lebanon's future, the world soccer federation announced that Beirut will be the venue of some of the qualifying games of the 1994 World Cup.

Despite these developments, Lebanon is still beset by serious problems.

More than 600,000 Lebanese, who were driven from their homes during more than a decade of turmoil, remain displaced.

Syria has not withdrawn its occupying force. Indeed, Lebanon is a Syrian protectorate. Hariri claims that Lebanon can prosper under Syrian tutelage.

Contrary to a 1978 United Nations resolution, Israel continues to occupy a portion of southern Lebanon. Israel says it will relinquish its self-declared security zone if and when Lebanon stops cross-border raids into the Galilee. But judging by the endemic violence in and around Israel's frontier, Lebanon appears utterly incapable of providing Israel with such iron-clad guarantees.

And as long as this is the case, it is doubtful whether Lebanon will sign a peace treaty with Israel.

Health care system in crisis

By NECHEMIA MEYERS

Israel's health care system is going through a serious crisis.

This is not yet reflected in vital statistics, since Israel still outranks the United States as regards longevity and infant mortality. But things will change before too long unless standards of health care, once extraordinarily high, are restored.

The smaller medical insurance funds are still providing reasonably good service to their members, but Kupat Holim Clalit, the Histadrut Trade Union fund to which 75 percent of the population belongs, is on the verge of collapse. It has a monthly deficit of $40 million (U.S.) and an accumulated debt of $1.5 billion. As a result, it can't provide many vital medicines to its members and some of its hospitals may even be forced to close.

This state of affairs is particularly saddening to Professor Nathan Trainin, a Weizmann Institute researcher who spent his first years in Israel — after graduating from medical school in Argentina — as a Kupat Holim Clalit physician in immigrant camps and rural settlements.

"Kupat Holim Clalit," he declares, "was then the only body in the country that was willing and able to take care of those people, many of whom were physical wrecks. And if its resources were short, Kupat Holim Clalit always gave first priority to the needs of immigrants and settlers. This policy ensured that everyone — and not just the residents of prosperous urban neighborhoods — received decent medical care."

Kupat Holim Clalit can't provide that kind of care any more because, in the first instance, growing medical sophistication has raised its costs much faster than its income, a problem which, of course, faces health-providers everywhere. "When I first began practicing medicine," Trainin recalls, "the only reasonably sophisticated instrument we had for probing inside the body was an X-ray machine costing some $25,000.

Kupat Holim on the verge of collapse

Now, however, doctors routinely use computerized tomographs, each of which, together with installation has a million-dollar price tag. Moreover, and even more significant, conditions that were usually incurable 40 years ago — like cancer and kidney failure — can now be successfully treated, but treatment is expensive and becomes more so as patients grows older."

Turning to the other end of the age scale, Trainin points out that premature babies weighing just 650 or 700 grams can and do survive in Kupat Holim Clalit hospitals, but only because the organization is willing to invest the substantial sums required to make this modern miracle possible.

All medical insurance funds have to cope with spiralling costs, but since Kupat Holim Clalit has an older and poorer membership than the others, its clients pay lower fees and require more care. Moreover, according to Trainin, Kupat Holim Clalit has also suffered from the fact that it was discriminated against by successive Likud governments.

Now that Labor is back in power, the Histadrut would like to see Prime Minister Rabin pour millions into Kupat Holim Clalit while leaving the organization, an important power base, under Histadrut control. But Health Minister Haim Ramon, who thinks that trade union bureaucrats have been responsible for many of Kupat Holim Clalit's problems, calls for a severing of links with the labor federation to transform Kupat Holim Clalit into a health provider, pure and simple.

In parallel, Ramon wants to create a comprehensive national medical insurance scheme under which the government would collect and distribute "health taxes," but individual citizens would decide whether they wanted to be looked after by Kupat Holim Clalit or one of its competitors.

Though opposition to the Ramon plan from the Histadrut and others is fierce, it will porobably be adopted because a continuation of the status quo would mean a gradual decline into Third World medical standards.

Rabbinical Reflections

By RABBI MICHAEL WOLFF

Recently I was asked in my function as a chaplain to visit an old Jewish woman at a government Senior's Citizen Home isolated and far from the Jewish community.

I drove for twenty minutes to a place I had never been before to visit a person whom I did not know and who would not have the capability to remember me twenty minutes after I left. The woman greeted me with a big smile and told me she was glad to see me. I asked her why she was here in this particular place. The woman was not able to answer me because of her illness.

I left with a feeling that I would visit again. I also left saddened by the knowledge that besides visiting her, I was probably powerless to bring her into a more Jewish environment.

Fortunately, I can find other people to visit this woman. I work with an enthusiastic group of volunteers who do the mitzvah of bikur cholim, visiting the sick, in local Montreal hospitals. These special volunteers provide an important link for Jewish patients with the community.

One of the comments, however, that I hear often from some volunteers and never ceases to surprise me, is that they do not enjoy visiting patients who already have visitors. The volunteers sometimes feel that they should only be visiting people who have no other visitors. My response is to say to visit anyway because a patient needs many visitors, not just one. Each visit or visitor brings something special, of assistance to the sick person. Jewish tradition says that each visit to a sick person removes one sixtieth of the pain.

One can draw a parallel to this concept of many visitors to a similar principle in prayer. Joseph Karo in his *Shulchan Arukh*, Code of Jewish Law, writes in the section Orach Chavim (Paragraph) 90.9 that a person always tries to pray with a congregation, and, in the event that one cannot physically be with a congregation, then at least prays at the same time as the congregation prays. The reason for this law is "in the multitude of people is the king's glory." (Proverbs 14, 28).

I think that the concept of many people present applies equally to visiting the sick and to prayer because the motive is the same. The patient feels honor because of the many people who visit. The King, G-d, feels honor because of the many people who speak to Him in one audience.

Conversely viewed, the visitor and the person in the congregation share a common identity. They are united in communal feeling. They belong to a community concerned with the welfare of others. The patient's visitors express concern for the well-being of the patient. The congregation prays for the well-being of the Jewish people.

A good feeling surely results when a patient is visited by a community of well-wishers in the same sense as G-d feels honored by a multitude. This feeling is one of strength, of recognition, of belonging. We can also presume to argue that the multitude feels this same sense of kinship because they are linked by the common bond of the shared person.

The Torah portion of Va-Yakhel, Chapter 35, also starts with this notion of kinship, of belonging. Moses assembles the whole community of Israel to speak to them. All the men, women, and children gather together to listen to Moses. One of the medieval commentators, Nachmanides, asks why the women and children were present, if the laws that Moses was teaching did not apply to them in the same degree as for men? Nachmanides answers his question by saying that everyone, men, women and children, were united because of their commitment to what was being asked of them.

Whether through prayer, or through visiting the sick or through a mutual concern, we are all united. As a community we are one. One therefore does to oneself and to others a grave disservice by separating from the community. A united community is our strength and our glory.

(Rabbi Michael Wolff, co-ordinator of Chaplaincy Services, Federation CJA.)

PAINTING LIVENS UNIT

The Gastoenterology Unit at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre was made a little livelier recently when a painting by North York artist and gastroenterology outpatient Corynen Nussbaum was hung in the hallway. The colorful oil painting was donated by Nussbaum (centre) to Dr. Fred Saibil (right) and Dr. Lawrence Cohen (left) for the unit.

"NACHAS"
BY MIRIAM LANAIL
ROSIE! ROSIE! OVER HERE!
I KNEW IT! DRESSED FOR SPRING! DID SHE FORGET THIS IS CANADA?
I CAN HARDLY RECOGNIZE YOU... SO THIN... DON'T THEY FEED YOU ON THAT KIBBUTZ OF YOURS?
GOOD TO SEE YOU, MA. YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT.
WHY IS BUBBY CRYING? ISN'T SHE GLAD TO SEE US?
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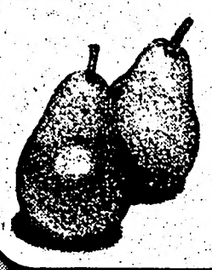

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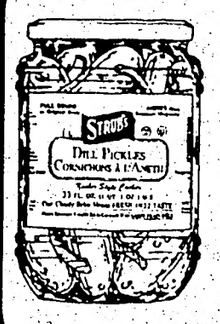

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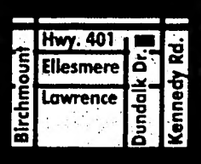

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Organizations and People

Personal safety service expands to Toronto

TORONTO — Busy working people with children who are home alone after school, or with household elderly parents will be pleased to learn that the Calling For You personal monitoring service has expanded beyond Metropolitan Toronto.

The service that monitors the safety and well-being of children, seniors, and the household is now available in London, Kitchener, Waterloo, Guelph, Oakville, Burlington, Hamilton, St. Catharines and Niagara Falls.

"During our first six months in the Metropolitan Toronto area, we have had numerous requests for our service from as far as London and St. Catharines," said Carl Katz, president of Calling For You. "With the increasing number of older adults and working parents, we relized the need to expand our service area."

Calling For You is a personal monitoring service that automatically monitors the safety and well-being of children, seniors and the housebound, and immediately calls friends or relatives if there is a problem. The first of its kind in Canada, the service takes the burden off the user to summon help in times of emergency.

There is no equipment to purchase, the system works on any touchtone phone. Those at home can receive calls from one to 10 times a day, to ensure their well-being, determine their alertness, or to remind them to take medication. If they do not respond appropriately by simply touching a button on their telephone, the service automatically calls up to five predesignated people to alert them of a potential problem.

Available in all languages, 24 hours a day, the cost for this service ranges from $15 per month for one call a day to $35 per month for five calls per day, seven days a week.

"Calling For You not only benefits the person being protected, but busy friends and relatives as well," continued Katz. "People today have busier lifestyles and careers than ever before and Calling For You gives them that extra assurance that their children, parents, relatives or friends are safe despite their being unable to call personally."

There are three groups who will particularly benefit from this service according to Katz — school children, seniors and those with health concerns.

"There is an increasing number of children with working parents who arrive home from school each day to an empty house," said Katz. "Parents who are busy at work need to know that their child has arrived safely.

"For seniors and those in questionable health, Calling For You, provides independence from hospital-type environments. They can now feel more secure living alone without the fear of being unprotected should an accident or emergency occur," he explained.

Calling For You has a toll-free number for outside Metropolitan Toronto. Call 1-800-463-0405 for more details. In Toronto, call 440-4290.

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7:30 & 9:30 P.M.

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Program benefits students

TORONTO — "Israel is a good place to make decisions," says Tracey Levison, of Willowdale, Ont. Tracey, a student at the University of Western Ontario, is spending this year at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Rothberg School for Overseas Students.

"I came here to decide what to do with the rest of my life," she said. Tracey, the daughter of Elaine and Benny Levison, has pursued a philosophy major; this year she is refocusing on her personal heritage and her interest in modern Israel.

As a first-time visitor to the country, she has been overwhelmed by its intensity. Furthermore, she has discovered that while she is not now actively pursuing philosophy studies, Israel's "atmosphere exudes philosophy."

Tracey is one of over 1,000 students from around the world who have come to the Hebrew University's Rothberg School. Students take both a full course load as well as intensive Hebrew language classes. In addition to the academics, one-year program students are offered a range of extra-curricular opportunities through the University's Office of Student Activities.

While Tracey claims to be undecided about her future, her activities tell a different story. She harbors the notion of attending law school and specializing in bio-medical ethics. This year she is assisting a professor in the Hebrew University's criminology department and is

Tracey Levison

pursuing internships in the justice ministry. She is also active in the Rothberg Schools' student community.

Yet, probably the most profound comment on Tracey's year is her new-found understanding of Judaism and its place in her life.

"I have gained a dramatically different attitude, and want to work with it at home." Tracey herself says that she has much to learn about Israel and Israeli society, but already she knows that this year in Israel is just the beginning of a permanent relationship with the country.

"For the rest of my life, I will have a tie to Israel," she said.

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To pre-register please call A TIME FOR ME at 635-2883 ext. 139

Funds benefit Jews worldwide

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN

TORONTO — Jewish communities around the world will benefit from the recent launching of the Rocket to Freedom, a committee targeted at raising money for Jewish organizations worldwide.

The committee was formed about six months ago with the mandate of conceiving, funding, promoting and running fundraising events on behalf of organizations that serve Jewish communities in Toronto and throughout the world.

Ken Tanenbaum, one of the eight original organizers of the Rocket to Freedom says that the committee is made up of mostly single, young, Jewish professionals and graduate students with "unparalleled motivation who just want to help. Our first event, held at a club called the Rocket, drew over 400 people and raised $7,000 towards the cost of supporting the immigration of two Soviet families to Israel."

He says that the next event will raise funds for Jewish Family and Child Service. "Our first party focused on helping the community abroad so this time we're looking at the local scene. We've had quite a good response to this upcoming evening."

Tanenbaum says that he would like to see the committee sponsor various events such as speakers, seminars and dinners. "That is the mandate of the Rocket for Freedom, to be educational, fun and worthwhile."

For more information on the next event, to be held March 19 at the Betty Ford, 240 King Street East, call 964-1224 and leave a message.

Organizations and People

BB is baffled by the rise of anti-Semitic incidents

By JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL — B'nai Brith (BB) admits it is at a loss to explain why the number of anti-Semitic incidents in Quebec in the first two months of this year has already surpassed the 1992 total.

BB League for Human Rights national chair Stephen Scheinberg said a number of theories have been proposed, but none can be considered satisfactory. Who the likely perpetrators are remains baffling.

In January and February, more than 25 incidents were recorded, mostly swastika-daubings of synagogues, Jewish institutions, private homes and vehicles in Montreal and Laval. In all of 1992, there were eight reported acts of anti-Semitic vandalism and 20 incidents of harassment against a Jewish individual, group or institution in Quebec.

These figures are contained in the League's 1992 Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents released last week.

"It has been suggested the incidents in Quebec are linked to the deportation of the Hamas terrorists. We doubt that because during the Gulf War there was an increase in incidents generally in Canada and the United States, and there's no reason why Quebec would be alone this time in reacting to events in the Middle East," Scheinberg said.

Another idea is that, perhaps because of language, hate groups in Quebec may be out of sync with their counterparts in the rest of North America. BB thinks part of the reason for the 22 percent decrease in the number of anti-Semitic incidents in Canada last year is that such organizations are changing their tactics. (In Quebec, there was a slight drop in incidents from 1991 to 1992, from 31 to 28.)

The extreme right-wing is abandoning thuggery in an effort to make themselves more acceptable in the political arena, the report says.

"Groups here are more isolated from the trends elsewhere, or may be at a different stage of development," Scheinberg commented.

The third theory is that the surge in graffiti is not at all related to hate group activity or neo-Nazi ideology.

"These could be random acts by an individual and then a psychological, rather than sociological, interpretation might be more appropriate."

Scheinberg stressed that whatever the explanation the League is not blaming Quebec society as a whole for the rash of incidents.

He commended both the Montreal Urban Community and Laval police for their investigation of the incidents over the last two months. "We are most satisfied with the co-operation and information we get from the police. We have a good sense, from almost daily contact, that they are putting all the resources they can into this."

Police have followed some leads and questioned individuals, but so far none has proved conclusive, he said.

The League was less complimentary of the province's justice officials. "We have been generally disappointed in the Quebec justice ministry. We have not seen the vigorous prosecution of hate-motivated crime that we believe is warranted."

The organization had pressed the government to try the 17- and 18-year-olds charged with the gang murder of a man in Angrignon Park in November in adult court. The youths are skinheads, at least a couple of whom were found to be in possession of Nazi materials, and they are believed to have targeted the man because he was thought to be gay.

Instead, the youths were tried in juvenile court on second-degree murder, he said.

The most disturbing anti-Semitic event in Quebec last year was the holding of a weekend-long "Aryan Fest" in the summer in La Plaine, a small town in the lower Laurentians. Among the 75 persons attending were skinheads and members of groups like the Ku Klux Klan and Church of the Creator.

The BB report notes favorably that the townspeople reacted angrily to the presence of the neo-Nazis and to the slow response by Quebec provincial police.

Race relations group gets grant

By MAURICE LUCOW

VICTORIA — The district of Victoria has approved a $20,000 grant to set up a race relations committee here.

School trustees of the greater Victoria area will lend their support by offering space in a school building.

The committee is seeking another $25,000 from the federal and provincial governments.

The idea for a race relations committee has been kicked around for the past couple of years. Plans were finalized by the Greater Victoria Race Relations Steering Committee which produced a report last November and then commenced lobbying the local municipal councils for support. An active member of the steering committee and frequent spokesman at council meetings was Michael Peters of the Jewish Community Relations Committee.

With the aid and advice of the provincial ombudsman and a member of the B.C. Human Relations Committee, a permanent race relations committee is in the process of being organized. It will set up a series of guidelines and encourage improved race relations in the Victoria area. There are 60 distinct ethnic cultures in the area.

The race relations advisory council said in its report that Greater Victoria is the largest population centre in Canada without any form of race relations and "given the escalating racial violence in other cities, it would be naive to deny forming a council until we experience some serious racial problem — especially since the greatest value of race relations groups is preventive."

Pushing the idea through the municipal councils was not easy. One woman said a race council would be "elitist," a politically correct group with the authority to "bash" white Christians. "It's Christianity that's under attack, not Judaism," she contended. "Anti-Christianity is very, very acceptable."

The same speaker also charged that the anti-racist committee would be a gestapo police organization with the mandate to brainwash children and bash their culture.

A letter to the editor of the *Times-Colonist* claimed that "racial harmony cannot be legislated and imposed on those who resist that philosophical notion . . . Politicians should be looking at ways to reduce rather than increase funding to special interest groups."

However, Rennie Warburton, a sociologist at the University of Victoria, declared in an op-ed piece in the *Times-Colonist* that existing anti-discrimination and anti-hate laws are not sufficient. "Racism needs to be seen as a form of abuse."

He said programs making for tolerance and understanding between groups and communities need persistent support from politically involved and concerned people. He said much can be done through public education which is explicitly anti-racist, and teaches the history of racist oppression in Canada.

PURIM IN NORTH BAY

Jessica Wodlinger (centre) and Lara Colton admire the Haman hat worn by Aaron Mann-Sullivan during North Bay's Jewish community Purim festival. Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, helps facilitate the annual weekend event held in the Sons of Jacob Synagogue. [Susan Jackson photo]

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Organizations and People

Bill could pose problems for those needing long-term care

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — If passed in its current form, a bill now before Ontario's legislature could force Jewish seniors requiring long-term care into non-Jewish facilities, the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care warned last week.

In a joint press conference held with members of Metro's Italian and Chinese communities, Baycrest spokesman Moshe Greengarten warned that Bill 101, which received second reading in January, would create "serious problems" for ethnic seniors by taking away their ability to choose where they live out their days.

The bill, part of the province's massive plan to restucture long-term care in Ontario, ignores the cultural, linguistic and religious needs of seniors and if unchanged, would essentially serve them on a first-bed available basis, said Greengarten.

He shared the panel with John Capo, president of the Villa Colombo Home for the Aged and Dr. Joseph Wong of the Chinese Community Nursing Home for Greater Toronto. All expressed their concern that Bill 101 is insensitive to the needs of ethnic seniors, many of whom speak only their mother tongue and are unfamiliar with customs outside their heritage.

Nowhere in the bill are the cultural, religious and linguistic needs of the elderly addressed, the representatives said, adding that other guidelines formulated by Queen's Park speak only of patients' physical requirements.

Greengarten said he fears the bill will be "rammed through" the legislature and could become law as soon as this summer.

If it does, it is possible that a Jewish senior citizen requiring long term care would be placed in a Chinese, Italian or other setting, and that the home would be required to accept that person, he explained.

For a Jewish long-term care patient, that could mean restricted access to kosher food, a non-Jewish or entirely unfamilar environment, no Yiddish spoken, no holidays marked and no Jewish programming.

The bill calls for provincial "placement co-ordinators" to control and authorize admission to nursing homes and homes for the aged. The provision removes freedom of choice for individuals, their families and institutions, Greengarten said.

The bill would also remove incentive to build new nursing homes, the panel agreed.

Greengarten said he recently saw the proposed application form families seeking admission to long-term care facilities would have to fill out.

The 19-page form has only two questions relating to the applicant's ethnic background, he said, and those are next to queries, about whether the patient wants alcoholic drinks and wishes to smoke.

"We feel it is insulting to the multicultural communities of this province to suggest that their rich and diverse heritages can be equated with smoking and drinking preferences," Greengarten stated.

For over a year, Baycrest has warned that Ontario's proposal to rework long-term care would dilute its world-famous quality of care and translate into standardized, "one size fits all" service.

Members of the Jewish, Italian and Chinese communities say they have requested a meeting with Health Minister Ruth Grier to discuss the bill but have had no reply yet.

Drug slows tumor growth: expert

By CELINE MIGDAL

MONTREAL — There is evidence that the experimental drug Tamoxifen slows the growth of malignant tumors in the breast, according to one expert.

Dr. Richard Margolese, director of oncology at the Jewish General Hospital, said when Tamoxifen is prescribed after breast cancer surgery it can also help prevent new tumors in the opposite breast.

The drug may also be beneficial for women at high-risk for breast cancer who have not yet developed the disease.

"Laboratory tests prove that when Tamoxifen is given to lab animals before exposure to a cancer-causing agent, you see fewer cancers than expected and when it's given after the exposure, you see less growth and promotion of tumors," Margolese said. "And in both cases, Tamoxifen helps in impeding the disease."

Margolese, the main speaker at a recent symposium on breast cancer presented by the Montreal chapter of the The Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science, explained the role Tamoxifen plays in preventing undesirable cell growth or mutations, which can lead to cancer.

Human cells contain at their nucleus the genetic code or DNA. They are constantly reproducing and multiplying.

When a small mistake in this process occurs it is usually discarded by the body or absorbed into the genetic code without much harm. When another mistake is added to the original error or inherited from a parent, it creates the potential for a much bigger error in the DNA and opens the door for unbridled growth or mutation of cells.

If enough of these errors or mutations happen, it can lead to a benign or malignant tumor.

Tamoxifen inhibits cancer growth by blocking the entry and division of estrogen, a known stimulant, into the breast cell.

"Every time there's a division, there's a risk for a possible mutation. If we can stop the cells from unnecessary division, we can prevent cancer. We hope to be able to do that, in the future," Margolese said. He said the incidence of cancer in North America during the past two years has remained the same, with more cancers detected at an early stage thereby giving a better chance for a cure.

"With age, the cancer risk goes up. At age 35, cancer risk is low. We only see 50 to 60 cases per 100,000 but it goes up to 400 cases per 100,000 for ages 60 to 70," Margolese said.

Dr. Gerald Batist, associate professor of medicine and oncology at McGill University, was another speaker at the symposium. He described the development of new cancer-fighting drugs based on Vitamin A called Retinoids which are still in the experimental stage. Retinoids have proven useful in reversing malignant growth, mainly in leukemia and squamous tumors in the head and neck.

According to a 10-year study conducted by Dr. Anthony Miller of Toronto, the benefits of mammography for women under the age of 40 are negligible in terms of survival. Therefore Quebec is advocating that mammography for screening purposes be done on women between the ages of 50-70, where the biggest risks occur, unless there's a family history of cancer.

The Jewish General Hospital, in collaboration with the McGill teaching hospitals, is conducting a five-year study across North America involving 16,000 high-risk women using Tamoxifen. For information, call (514) 340-7562.

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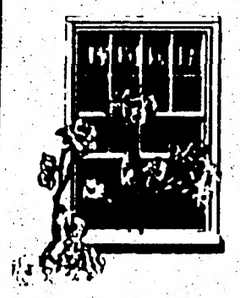

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Organizations and People

What's New

By MIRIAM CHINSKY

DEADLINE REMINDER

The deadline for What's New and About People is Thursday, two weeks prior to publication date (i.e. Thursday, March 18 is deadline for April 1 issue and Thursday, March 25 is deadline for April 8 issue). I am at my desk on Thursdays only to receive your calls and sort my mail. The phone number is 422-2331.

Saturday, March 20

ISRAELI ACADEMICIANS

You and your friends are invited to a get together planned by the Association of Israeli Academicians 8 p.m. Saturday, March 20 at the JCC Valley, 7015 Leslie St. **Prof. Amnon Altman** from Bar Ilan University, currently at York and the University of Toronto, will speak about Israelis and Arabs in peace negotiations. Open discussion, refreshments and Israeli songs, will follow. Admission, $4 per person. For more details, call 493-7453.

Sunday, March 21

SPRING FASHION SHOW

Spring Into '93, showcases great spring clothes and accessories by Carlin Enterprises, plus exciting boutiques, at Shaarei Tefillah Sisterhood's annual fashion presentation, 1:30 p.m. Sunday, March 21, 3600 Bathurst St., phone 787-1631. Refreshments. Tickets, $10, available at the door.

USY ISRAELI AWARENESS

Beth David United Synagogue Youth promises an exciting day for its annual Israeli Awareness program, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, March 21 at the shul, 55 Yeomans Rd. Features include Rikudiyah with **Rivka Atzmony,** a talk by former USY president **Janna Cohen,** on her recent pilgrimage to Israel, tasty falafel and Israeli music. (Ages 12-18). Cost is only $3. This is sure to be an afternoon of milk and honey!

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM BREAKFAST CLUB

Self-esteem will be explored by author/ psychologist, **Rabbi Mordechai Blumenfeld,** when he addresses Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood Breakfast Club, 470 Glencairn Ave., Sunday, March 21 following 9 a.m. services.

CONGREGATION HABONIM

Congregation Habonim Cultural Club meets 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 21 at 5 Glen Park, to screen the documentary, In Search of Joy, produced by Isabel Fryszberg and Tracy Thompson, who will be present. Members $2, non-members $2.50.

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

Canadian Zionist Federation Public Speaking Competition semi-finals (ages 15-18) are slated for Sunday, March 21 - 10 a.m., Temple Har Zion, 7360 Bayview Ave. Thornhill; 1:30 p.m. Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave.; 2.30 p.m. Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. For information, call 633-3988.

SELMA SAGE & PASSOVER

Beth Tzedec Congregation, Max and Beatrice Wolfe Library, cordially invites you to hear community educator/lecturer **Selma Sage,** express her views, How Can This Passover Be Different From All Other Passovers? A Closer Look At The Women Around Moses, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 21. No admission charge.

Monday, March 22

HELLER MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto presents the annual Ronald Heller Memorial Lecture with **Joan Peters,** author of the award-winning *From Time Immemorial: The Origins of the Arab-Jewish Conflict Over Palestine*, who will speak on The Heart of the Matter: The Arab-Israeli Conflict, 8:15 p.m. Monday, March 22 at Beth Emeth Bais Yehudah Synagogue, 100 Elder St. The public is cordially invited.

SEDER EXPLANATIONS & STORIES

Shaar Shalom Synagogue Adult Education, 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill, continues its series on the Passover Seder with Explanations and Stories, led by **Rabbi Howard Markose,** 8 p.m. Monday, March 22. Everyone welcome. Contact the synagogue, 889-4975 for information.

FILM SERIES

The Nasty Girl, which depicts one individual's persistent efforts to uncover the horrifying truth about what happened in her hometown during World War II, will be screened at Beth Tikvah Congregation, 3080 Bayview Ave., 7 p.m. Monday, March 22. Tickets, $10, include free popcorn and drinks.Discussion. Call 221-3433.

SISTERHOOD TALMUD STUDY

Adath Israel Sisterhood Talmud Study with Rabbi Steven Saltzman continues 10 a.m. Monday, March 22 with The Ethics of War. Everyone welcome. To inquire, call 635-5340.

RISE OF RUSSIAN ANTI-SEMITISM

Beth Tzedec Men's Club and Sisterhood invite you to see the docudrama, *Freedom to Hate*, which reveals the alarming rise of anti-Semitism in Russia, followed by a panel discussion, Anti-Semitism in Russia Today: How Do We respond? with panelists **Dr. David Goldberg, David Rotenberg, Frank Dimant** and moderator **Genya Intrator**, 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 22 at the synagogue, 1700 Bathurst St. Free admission.

Tuesday, March 23

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League of North Bathurst presents Why Breastfeed Your Baby? the first in a series of four monthly meetings, which are open to pregnant or nursing mothers interested in information and support for breastfeeding. Babies welcome. 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 23 at 157 Glenmanor Way, Thornhill. For more information, call **Joyce,** 881-8779, **Robin,** 886-8364, **Karen,** 512-7974 or **Risa,** 738-8870.

BETH TIKVAH SISTERHOOD

At Beth Tikvah Sisterhood's general meeting, 3080 Bayview Ave., 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 23, **Wendy Dennis,** author of *Hot and Bothered,* will zero in on Men and Women, Sex and Love in the'90s. Members $3, non-members $5. Questions? Call **Carolyn Rose,** 223-4555 or **Nurit Tuch,** 225-7032. Bring one or more original recipes for the new cookbook and receive a $1 coupon toward your next purchase at Sisterhood's Judaica Shoppe (maximum $5).

Wednesday, March 24

FESTIVAL OF FASHION

Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Sisterhood, 613 Clark Ave., W., presents Festival of Fashion, Wednesday, March 24, featuring styles by Laura and Laura Petites and Melanie-Lyn, and hats by Suru's Boutique. Burst into spring with a fresh new look. Fashion show, boutiques, door prizes, refreshments. Boutiques 7:30 p.m., fashion show, 8:30. For tickets, $15, call 771-6711 (ladies only).

YOUTH ALIYAH LAUNCH

Toronto Hadassah-WIZO launches its Youth Aliyah campaign 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 24 in the Haifa Room, 788 Marlee Ave. with a talk by **Julia Koschitzsky** - Youth Aliyah, Jewish Agency's Board of Governors, chair of Keren Hayesod World Board of Trustees - who will review Sixty Years of Youth Aliyah. Reserve now. Call 789-4373.

PRE-PASSOVER AT BETH EMETH

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation, 100 Elder St., offers the first of two pre-Passover programs, Making Passover Come Alive, 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 24. For information, call 633-3838.

BEREAVED JEWISH FAMILIES

Bereaved Jewish Families invites you to Family Night, discussing the rabbi's role in the mourning process. An open discussion will follow a panel presentation, 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 24 in the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. To inquire further, call **Estelle Grader,** 487-7460; **David Ogus,** 447-0361 or **Beth Feffer** at Jewish Family and Child Service, 638-7800 ext. 248.

HOLY BLOSSOM LUNCH AND LEARN

Principal cellist and assistant conductor of the North York Symphony Orchestra, **David Miller,** who also holds a degree in psychology from Stanford University, will examine Psychology and Music at Holy Blossom's Lunch and Learn in Retirement, 12 noon, Wednesday, March 24. Program charge is $1. Tea, coffee and cookies are provided. For information, call **Deborah,** 789-3291.

Thursday, March 25

BAYCREST SPRING SALE '93

If you're in the market for clothing, housewares, toiletries, gift items, foodstuffs, toys and much more - new merchandise, all at bargain prices - don't miss the gigantic Baycrest Spring Sale '93, from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday, March 24, 3560 Bathurst St. New feature will be a silent auction. Proceeds go to support research into Alzheimer's Disease. Co-chairs are **Mimi Greenspoon, Ruth Paisley** and **Hinda Silber.** For more information, call 789-7071 ext. 2009.

AND WHAT ELSE IS NEW...

PASSOVER MEALS FOR SENIORS

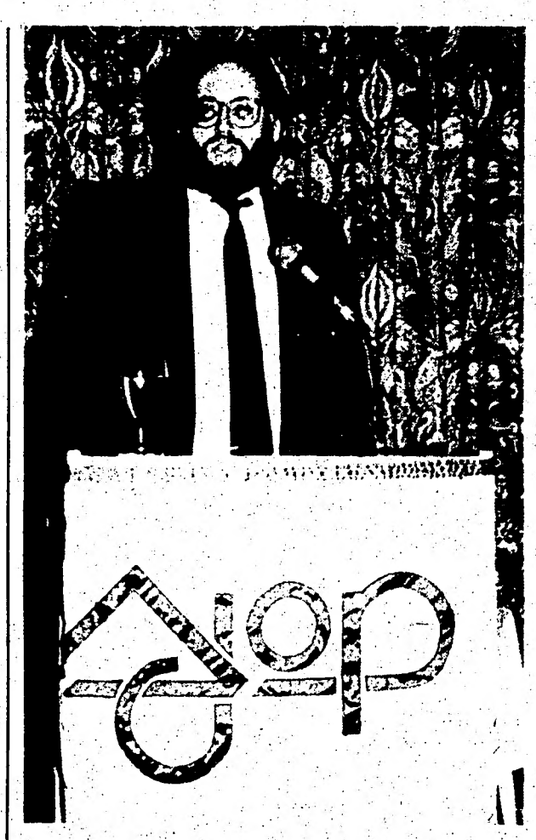
Passover begins the evening of April 5. Once again, the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is offering Kosher-for-Passover Meals to seniors who live in long-term care facilities. Each meal will cost $5 and must be ordered before Friday, March 26. To order, or for more imformation, contact **Paula Ruch,** 225-2112.

CALLING ALL MEMORIES

Seventy-five years ago Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care was just starting out in a small brick house on Cecil Street in downtown Toronto. This year Baycrest celebrates its 75th anniversary. But help from the community is needed to bring its history to life. Do you have any mementoes, photos, personal reminiscences to share and help mark this special event? Anything you have will be treated with the greatest care and returned to you directly. If you think you have a Baycrest memory to share, please contact **Cindy Weiner,** 785-2479.

BETH EMETH CASINO NIGHT

Play blackjack, wheels of fortune, $1-$10 tables, when Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation, 100 Elder St., presents a Casino Night, Saturday, March 27 from 8 'til late. Tickets, $10, include $5 chips. Free refreshments. Free parking. Take a chance...Call 633-3838 now for tickets!



COUNTER—MISSIONARY

Julius Ciss, (above) Canadian director of Jews for Judaism, a full time counter-missionary organization, delivered a report on the threat posed by Christian missionaries to unaffiliated Jews, at the 5th annual convention of AJOP (Association for Jewish Outreach Professionals), held recently in Parsippany, New Jersey. Other speakers included the former Chief Rabbi of the British Commonwealth, Rabbi Lord Immanuel Jakobovitz and Rabbi Joseph Grunfeld, founder/director of Project Seed, which has brought hundreds of families in England back to Jewish living.

CONGREGATIONAL SEDER, LONDON

A unique and moving experience awaits you at the congregational seder for adults and children, planned by Temple Israel, London, 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 6. It has become an evening which blends the observance of seder traditions with the involvement of the growing temple family. To reserve, contact **Louise Shanfield,** 262A Central Ave, London, N6A 1M8 by March 20.

And, a brown bag lunch session is slated for 12-12:50 p.m. Thursday, March 25 at the temple office, 219-1135 Adelaide St. N. Coffee and dessert. Topic: Do We Want to Speak of Reform Halachah?...And Can We?

OAKVILLE SEDER REGISTRY

If you are new in the community and would like to join a family from Shaarei Beth Congregation, Oakville, for a seder, the Rebecca Sisterhood can help. A list is being established and if you want to join a family, or if you can accommodate others, please call **Barbara Feldman,** 637-0187, **Karen Smith,** 338-1814 or the office, 849-6000.

CRIME OF THE CENTURY

Crime of the Century: The Trial and Execution of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg and the End of the Cold War, will be the focus when attorney **Robert Meeropol,** the youngest son of **Julius** and **Ethel Rosenberg** (who was just six when his parents were executed) speaks at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 28 in the Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Admission is $10, students and unemployed $5. Meeropol's appearance is a benefit for the Rosenberg Fund for Children.

TEL-AIDE JEWISH DISTRESS LINE

Lonely? Did a relationship just break up? Trouble at work? Let a Tel-Aide volunteer be a friend for a while. Sensitive listeners are on duty now at Tel-Aide, the Jewish Distress Line, 636-9610. All Tel-Aide volunteer listeners have taken an extensive training course and are well qualified to listen. Tel-Aide is a program of the Jewish Federation of Toronto.

JEWISH FAMILY and CHILD SERVICE

Jewish Family and Child Service offers the following workshops: One Marriage: Two Religions, group for engaged/married couples from different religions (begins March 25); For Women Only (starts March 23; Surviving Separation (begins April 21; Parenting the Young Child, ages 3-8 (starts March 22). For more information re fees and registration, call **Pat Lieberman,** 638-7800.

HEART PROGRAM

North York chapter, Heart and Stroke Foundation, offers an eight-week Heart to Heart pro-

[Cont'd. on page 23]

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Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

gram for people who have had a heart attack or cardiovascular surgery, and for their partners. Starting March 24, the program runs one day per week with professional speakers on nutrition, physical activity, stress management. Fee, $50, covers individual and partner and may be waived or reduced, according to financial circumstance. To enrol, call 226-5856.

OUR YIDDISH HERITAGE

Our Yiddish Heritage, Friday, March 26 at Temple Sinai, 210 Wilson Ave, an annual Oneg Shabbat celebrating Yiddish song and story, will feature **Cantor Martha Birnbaum, Harvey Atkin, Jack Newman, Ben Steinberg** and the Temple Sinai Choir. Service begins 8:15. Come out and bring a friend.

RIKUDIYAH '93

Rikudiyah '93, children's Israeli dance festival, Shorashim-Roots, is set for Sunday, March 28 at York University, Tait McKenzie Gym. Four generations and 400 youngsters will participate in an exuberant showcase of Israeli dance. Doors open 2 p.m. Show begins 2:30. Tickets, $5 (includes GST) adults, $1 children 12 and under, are available at the JCC North Y branch, 4588 Bathurst St and at the Bloor Y branch, 750 Spadina Ave. To inquire further, contact **Teme Kernerman,** 636-1880 ext. 364.

BBYO TEEN CONNECTION

All grades 7 and 8, ages 12 and 13, are invited to join B'nai Brith Youth Organization Teen Connection members on a trip to the Lois Hancey Wave Pool in Richmond Hill, Sunday, March 28. Meet at the JCC North Y 4588 Bathurst St. at 1 p.m. and return by 5. Cost (including transportation and admission) $8 non-members, $5 members. Join Teen Connection for the rest of the year for $20 or until June 1994 for only $30. For m ore information call **Steve Greenwood,** 635-9411.

BBYO DANCE-A-THON

B'nai Brith Youth Organizaton members will gather for their annual dance-a-thon Saturday and Sunday, March 27-28 at the JCC North Y branch. The theme, Rock and Roll Memories, will feature 12 hours of music (starting at 8 p.m. Saturday) from the 60s, 70s, 80s and today. Sponsor forms are available to all BBYO members at the North Y office Suite 213. Jewish high school students are welcome to attend from 8 p.m. to midnight provided they are sponsored by a BBYO member. Cost for BBYO guest is $7 per person. Call **Dave,** 635-9411 if you would like to be put on the guest list.

KOVNO GHETTO RESISTANCE

At Beth Tzedec Shabbat study luncheon originally planned for March 13, but re-scheduled to Saturday, March 27. **Prof. Sara Ginaite,** York University, will examine The Resistance Movement in the Kovno Ghetto - A Reminiscence. Luncheon at noon following 9 a.m. services. Reservations no later than March 23. Call 781-3511. Unpaid reservations cannot be accommodated.

BETH EMETH SPECIAL BREAKFAST

Beth Emeth Brotherhood, 100 Elder St., hosts a gathering for 1992 March of the Living participants, Sunday, March 28. The program will include slides of post-war Auschwitz, Birkenau and Treblinka and pre-war Poland. Services are 9:15 a.m., breakfast (nominal charge) at 10. Reserve before March 25 by calling 633-3838.

ORTHODOX RESPONSE TO AIDS

Orthodox volunteers are available to be buddies and practical assistants to those who are infected with the AIDS virus. Support groups at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue for family members of those who are affected; bereavement groups for those whose loved ones have died of AIDS; rabbis for spiritual counseling. Call **Shmuel,** 661-2577 in complete confidence.

Two volunteers are needed for AIDS assist. The AIDS assist program, which requires 16 hours of training, provides practical, social and spiritual support to people directly affected by AIDS. For details, call in confidence to **Shmuel,** 661-2577. Training is in association with Holy Blossom response to AIDS, but Orthodox activities will be conducted at Shaarei Shomayim.

KOFFLER GALLERY

Two exhibitions, **Claude Luneau,** recent sculptures in steel, bronze and iron, plus **Simone Jones** and **Mary Alton,** mechanical work and white transmission holograms, continue at the Koffler Gallery to April 5. For hours, call 636-2145.

KOL YISROEL CONGREGATION

Kol Yisroel Congregation will continue its weekly Shabbat services Saturday, March 20 at 9:30 a.m. in the Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Services are led by **Meir Bester.** Kiddush follows. Everyone welcome.

VENDORS WANTED

Vendors, private and corporate, are wanted for a Health and Wellness Information Fair planned by Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation for Sunday, May 2. Call 633-3838 for further information.

SURVIVORS/2ND GENERATION

The ongoing Thursday morning group for Holocaust Survivors and the Second Generation, conducted by **Doris Strub Epstein,** has been changed to Wednesday mornings from 10-11:45. The group deals with the emotional impact of the Holocaust. For information, call 787-5331.

at the JCC

Here is a list of exciting new courses starting in April at the Institute for Jewish Learning JCC. April 1 - Shabbat: It is an Island in Time, with **Rabbi Larry Troster** (Valley Branch); April 12 - Parenting in Early Biblical History, **Rabbi Henry Hoschander;** April 15 - Sugar or Spice? **Rachel Turkienicz;** April 19 - Echoes From Sinai, **Rabbi Mark Dratch;** April 20 - Jewish Biomedical Ethics, **Rabbi Howard Sacknowitz;** April 22 - Judaism for the Perplexed, **Edward Malamet** (Bloor Y); April 27 - Being Jewish: Basic Concepts and Practices in Judaism, **Dr. Leo Davids;** Archeological Manuscripts and Scrolls, **Dr. Aaron Nussbaum;** and Jewish Philosophy, **Rabbin Steven Saltzman;** April 28 - What Did They Think of the Jews? **Allan Gould.**

All courses take place at the North Y branch, 4588 Bathurst St. except where specified. To inquire, call 631-5660.

Register now for spring swimming sessions at the Bloor Y branch, 750 Spadina Ave: Parent and Tot (6-36 months); Pre-School (3-5 years); Red Cross, Royal Life Saving courses and the Esso Swim Canada program start March 28, 29 and 30. Classes are on weekends, after school and mornings. Adult Learn to Swim and Adult Stroke Improvement classes begin March 29. For more information call **Frances Fraser,** 924-6211.

It's not dirty dancing, it's Latin-American Dancing at the Bloor Y branch, 750 Spadina Ave. Why not sign up for the course. Session begins Monday, March 29. Call **Luni,** 924-6211.

A Passover seder will be conducted starting 8:15 p.m. Tuesday, April 6 (second night) at the Bloor Y branch. Cost is $35 per adult, $25, seniors, students, children. For tickets and information, call 924-6211.

for seniors

Association of Jewish Seniors is observing the second seder 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 6 at the Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Tickets, $15 per person, are to be purchased at the centre or Association of Jewish Seniors, 530 Wilson Ave. All are welcome. For information or to reserve, call **Goldie,** 635-2860.

Good Age Club, 750 Spadina Ave., invites you to a discussion on Yiddish literature, in Yiddish and English, to be led by **Richard Bassett,** 2 p.m. Thursday, March 18. Refreshments.

Earl Bales Seniors Club visits the *Dini Petty Show*, Tuesday, March 30. Depart from the Community Centre 10 a.m. On April 20, depart 9 a.m. from the Community Centre for Unico Foods, lunch, and Spray Pac. Cost per trip, $5. Lunch not included. Members only.

Dance to a live band 7:30-10:30 p.m. Sunday, March 28 in the Community Centre. Members $3, non-members $4. Next movie, 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 31 is *Windmills of the Gods, Part 2*. Free to members, non-members $1. Regular activities continue. For information call 395-7881 Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Senior Adult Services, JCC North Y branch, offers a trip to the Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills, 7 days/8 nights, July 20-26. Your getaway tour includes round trip transportation via deluxe motorcoach, three fabulous kosher meals daily, planned daytime activities, nightly entertainment, full use of all facilities, beautiful rooms, all taxes and gratuities, cancellation and medical insurance. Cost, $793 per person, double occupancy, $915 per person, single. For more information and/or to reserve, contact **Teme Kernerman,** 636-1880 ext. 364.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets regularly 7 p.m. Mondays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). On March 22 **Shuly Dichter,** shaliach for Hashomer Hazair in Canada, will explain how The Kibbutz Enters the 21st Century. For information, call 635-5604 or 782-9432.

Shomayim Friendship Club, 470 Glencairn Ave., has scheduled two one-day summer cruises Thursday, June 24 at Stoney Lake and Thursday, Aug. 26 at Bobeaygeon. Theatre trips include May 14, *Romeo and Juliet;* June 9, *Oliver;* July 22, *Damn Yankees;* Aug. 12, *Anything Goes.* Plans for a revised trip to Israel are being reviewed. For information about these and other activities call **Lena,** 785-5773 or **Ruth,** 224-5923. Remember the Golden Book to mark special occasions. Your donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. Call *Dorothy Bloomfield,* 787-1526.

The Wagman Centre Self-Help Widows Group 55 years of age and older, meets every other Sunday to deal with mourning and adjust to loss, share experiences and make new friends. The next meeting is March 21 from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Wagman Centre board room, 55 Ameer Ave. For more information, call **Paula David,** 789-5131 ext. 2271.

Continuing Education courses run from March 22-May 21. Registration for all courses takes place at the first class. Fees for Metro Toronto residents, under 60 years of age, $2.75 per one hour class, 60 and over, free. Non-Metro residents, $5 per one hour class.

On Sunday, March 21, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. the Canadian Zionist Federation public speaking competition takes place in the Assembly Room. Tuesday, March 23, from 7:30-8:30 p.m. enjoy **Indulis** and **Ilga Suna,** violin and piano in the Assembly Room.

Come with **Young at Heart Seniors** to Israel April 28-May 12. Included in your cost are two full-course meals daily, round-trip El Al flight, comprehensive touring geared to seniors, all entrance fees to sites visited, luggage portage at airport and hotels in Israel. Cost is $2,299 per person double occupancy. For more information, call **Doreen,** or **Helen,,** 635-6343.

L.Z.A. Seniors Club will start off 1993 with a Luncheon Meeting at noon, Wednesday, March 24 and looks forward to seeing all members, especially those who have just returned from winter vacations.

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is located at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. The phone number is 225-2112.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club for Hebrew speaking adults meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. Programs include movies, lectures, concerts, dances. Join in all the interesting events. For more information call **Anna,** 225-2112.

The Friendship Circle, for people 55 and over and single, meets every other Thursday at 7 p.m. Meetings are for Friendship Circle members only. Fee is $1. Refreshments. On March 18, a movie will be shown.

Working Together for Change, a new support group concerned with elder abuse, is available at the centre. For more information, call 225-2112. All inquiries will be confidential.

Be part of the audience at a session of the Canadian Zionist public speaking competition, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 21. Free to everyone.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Sunday, March 21. Members $3.50, non-members $4.

The centre's own creative writers invite you to a Literary Dessert Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. Monday, March 22. Cost, $2.75 members, $3.75 guests.

Join **Debbie Howe** and become a member of the new Osteoporosis Support Group, 1:30-3 p.m. Wednesday, March 23 in the Music Room. Call **Brenda** or **Sandra,** 225-2112.

Skills for Living, 10 sessions with **Harriet Sharkey,** runs 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays, March 23, 30, April 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1,8, in the synagogue (back). Discuss, coping under stress, becoming more assertive, improving relationships. Co-sponsored by the Lifelong Learning Institute and North York Board of Education.

Enjoy a musical social with **Katherine Ross,** 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 24. Members $2.50, non-members $3.50.

Radio/TV personality **Joe Rudnick,** speaks on What Change Can Do For You! How Changing Your Attitude Can Lead to a Better Lifestyle, 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 24 in the synagogue. No charge.

My Grandparents Had a Hotel, a film about Monteith Inn, a Jewish summer resort on Lake Rosseau in the 30s and 40s, will be screened by **Karen Shopsowitz,** 1:30 p.m. in the synagogue. Come and reminisce. Free. Everyone welcome.

FIRST PLACE TEAM

The Downtown Jewish Community School (DJCS) team of (from left) Daniel Roth, Justin Fraterman and David Watkins, placed first in the Toronto Board of Jewish Education sponsored Team Bible Contest, held in February at Holy Blossom Temple. Shown in the back row are (from left) Bible coach Sigal Tuch, principal Joan Schoenfeld, BJE consultant and Bible Contest co-ordinator Yael Seliger. Other DJCS students participating in the contest were Matthew Kanter, Alex Orwin and Stephen Shore. Justin Fraterman and Alex Orwin will represent the DJCS at the National Bible Contest of the World Zionist Organization, to be held in Montreal, March 21-23.

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Organizations and People

Jewish heritage aids officer

By FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO — In almost 20 years of police work, Constable Allan Bowman has never found the fact that he is Jewish to be an issue with his co-workers. In his present position, though, with the Intercommunity Relations Unit of the Metropolitan Toronto Police, it's paramount.

Bowman joined the unit in September 1991 following an upsurge in right wing activity in the Toronto area.

Much of his work consists of education and outreach, both to community groups and to other police officers, he told a recent gathering of the Toronto Association of Israelis in Canada. The group had invited him to talk about his work and answer questions. Part of Bowman's mandate involves meeting community members in forums such as this one.

Bowman spoke of the changing face of Metro's Jewish community, including the growing Israeli population (50,000-strong, by some estimates, he said) and the growing Russian population.

A recent UN study pinpointed Toronto as the most culturally diverse city in the world, Bowman said. His colleagues on the unit include Indian, Pakistani, Chinese, Korean, French- and Spanish-speaking officers. It's not uncommon for them to encounter a cool reception from immigrants who "have no reason to like or trust police officers where they come from," Bowman said.

Questions about taking prompt and definitive action against Ernst Zundel for disseminating hate literature headed the list of the Israeli group's concerns. At the time of Bowman's talk, Zundel's material was under review by the attorney general's office, which left police hands tied. (Zundel will not be charged with promoting hatred, see page 4).

Bowman urged the group to make their opinions known to their members of parliament. "MPs want to hear from groups and individuals such as yourselves who will go to public meetings and tell them what they would like to see changed," he said. "The police are only as good as they laws they are given to work with."

Bowman spoke of the importance of honesty in his job. "In order to relate to a community, you have to be honest with them," he said. "If that trust isn't there, I haven't done anybody any good."

Group to fight elder abuse

OTTAWA — One Voice, a network of seniors groups across Canada, has announced plans to develop a coordinated response to elder abuse in Canada.

The group has the support of government officials. Monique Vézina, minister of state for seniors, said: "Elder abuse is unacceptable. We need to help create an environment that enables seniors who are being abused to come forward to get help and support to allow them to live with the dignity that they richly deserve. I was therefore pleased to support this initiative by One Voice."

According to a Ryerson Polytechnical Institute study, as many as four percent (98,000) of seniors living in private dwellings in Canada are mistreated by a partner, a relative or other close contact. Some are neglected. Others are abused physically, psychologically, financially, and/or materially.

Although elder abuse is receiving more and more attention, it remains a problem that is little understood or talked about. Even among seniors, there is reluctance to discuss the matter.

"Our project is a major national initiative," said Berdie Darrah, a One Voice board member. "It is unique in that older Canadians themselves will identify ways to significantly reduce elder abuse by trying to change the attitudes and values that cause it."

"Individually and through their organizations, seniors from all provinces and territories will participate in surveys and regional forums to be held across Canada by One Voice," added Claudette Légaré, project manager.

Seniors will be asked to address the issue of mistreatment and develop appropriate solutions for implementation.

One Voice's 30-month project is funded under Health and Welfare Canada's Family Violence Prevention Division which calls upon Canadians to work together to address the very complex problem of elder abuse.

The number of Canadians over 65 is expected to double in the next 30 years.

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SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feauture of The Canadian Jewish News. ***Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.*** *For rates or to place an ad, please call Alan at 422-2528.*

****Spring Thaw Dance****
We're Back In Full Swing!!
New Image 50 Plus Singles is having a dance on **Saturday, March 20** at Earl Bales Community Centre. 8:00pm. Refreshments, prizes. **DeeJay Dave Emery** (from Villa Colombo). Members $5.00, guests $6.00.
Everybody welcome, come and enjoy! Catskill trip July 30 to August 9 (11 days). Bus money now due for members. Pay early and get a good seat! Call H. Pearson, 633-0397.

Atideynu Lodge (20's and 30's) presents: Bowling on Thursday, March 25 at 7:30pm. Bathurst Bowlerama (Bathurst and Glencairn). Please join us for a fun filled evening of mingling. Contact Jason, 738-8960.

Italian Night with dance, pizza (per your request) and sangria. Sat. March 20. 8:00pm. Cost $12.00 members, $15.00 guests. This group will have a weekly function, so check with us. Upcoming events: Bowling, Pete and Marty's Night, Sunday Bruch, Rock and Roll Night, B-B-Q, Weekend Away, A Day in the Country. Sonia, 737-4076, Dorothy, 490-1504.

Mayfair West Raquet Club (Chesswood/Sheppard) present our next party. Saturday, March 27. The action begins begins at 7:00pm with a tennis round robin and a dance following at 10:00pm. The cost for the tennis and dance is $20.00 for non-members, $15.00 for Mayfair members. The cost is **$5.00** (half price special!) after 10:00pm for the dance. Call Marcia, 638-1010, to reserve for tennis.

Reserve for R.S.V.P. An intimate candlelit evening of roundtable discussions for Jewish professionals in their 20's and 30's. A better way for people to meet and exchange thoughts on relationships, career, sexuality and spirituality. March 24; "Passover Prep.; Freedom or License?". $8.00. Reservations a must. 636-7530.

WANTED: MEN! We are interested in forming a support group for divorced, separated & widowed professionals 35-55, & we need more guys! Reply in confidence, Box 5826 CJN.

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Group aids Jerusalem school for handicapped youngsters

By FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO — This year marks the 25th anniversary of a Toronto group which has worked since its inception to help a Jerusalem school for physically and mentally handicapped youngsters age 6 to 15, many from disadvantaged families.

The Golan Group was established in 1968 by Yehuda Noy, Toronto's aliyah shaliach at the time, as a social group for the purpose of encouraging aliyah.

Through Noy, group members became aware of the Ben Yehuda School and took on the task of raising money for it by means of an annual auction and bazaar.

"You can't forget those children," says longtime member David Meranda, who has visited the school twice.

The dedication of the teachers impressed Golan Group president David Teschner. He recalls seeing teachers take money from their own pockets to pay for an Oneg Shabbat for the students. "They live for the children," Teschner said.

The school has been so successful that some of its graduates have even qualified to go into the army, said Ted Benyovitz, one of four group members who met recently at Teschner's home to talk to *The CJN*.

Although there are only about 30 people in the group (mostly couples), everybody works "to the zenith of their ability," said Manny Linden. It's very significant, he added, that the group has no administrative costs.

The group members have chosen to operate without benefit of a charitable registration number in order to avoid extra paperwork and the expense of hiring an accountant. They send the entire amount raised from the auction and bazaar directly to the school.

Funds raised over the past 25 years have been used to purchase gym equipment, play equipment, computer programs, supplies for the home economics room, used for teaching life skills, and books for the teachers' library so that they can keep up with current research on retardation and learning disabilities.

Money has also gone towards subsidizing Russian olim on school trips and helping to refurbish a metal workshop damaged by an intifadah firebomb in 1989. Ben Yehuda receives government funding, but because of the students' special needs, they are unable to offer as complete a program as they'd like without additional funding.

"There has never been any doubt that the money is used to its full potential," said Linden. Ofra Kaplan, the school principal, is in frequent contact with the Golan Group.

The group, which is the only group outside Israel supporting the school financially, is currently seeking donations for its auction and bazaar, to be held May 16 and May 23 respectively, at the Thornhill Community Centre, Bayview Avenue and John Street. They typically sell items like clothing (new and used), small appliances (all new), weekend packages at hotels, restaurant dinners, and services such as computer lessons.

The group also welcomes prospective members. Most members are now in the 55-plus age group. They meet monthly for social events including a variety of speakers. Annual events include a Purim party, a Chanukah party and a pool party in early summer.

For further information, please call David Teschner at 226-4058 or Ted Benyovitz at 749-8225.

Students at Jerusalem's Ben Yehuda school, supported by Toronto's Golan Group, celebrate Purim.

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Donors line up to find a bone marrow match

JERUSALEM — In an unprecedented event of its magnitude, approximately 2,650 Israelis recently volunteered to help save a life in five short hours. A national bone marrow screening campaign was organized on behalf of Jay Feinberg, a 24-year-old New Jersey man suffering from leukemia. The event benefits Israelis, Canadians, and thousands of other patients worldwide who are seeking donors for bone marrow transplants.

In just one evening, the Friends of Jay Feinberg, an international bone marrow donor recruitment foundation, nearly doubled the donor registry at Hadassah Hospital, a donor centre for the U.S. National Marrow Donor Program, proving that there is no lack of willing donors in Israel. Olympic judo champion Yael Arad, the honorary chair, was on hand to explain the urgency of donor recruitment, along with Jay Feinberg and Dr. Chaim Brautbar, head of Hadassah's Tissue Typing Unit.

A combined shortage of supplies, funds and time forced clinics to close their doors and turn away approximately 2,000 additional donors. Said Feinberg, "We anticipated approximately 2,000 donors. But when people began lining up an hour before we were scheduled to begin, we knew we had a tiger by its tail.

"Then the buses from the yeshivas pulled up one after the other. Although it was crowded, it was really a heartwarming feeling to know that so many people care enough to save a life." Additional supplies were rushed from Hadassah Hospital and testing was able to resume for a short time. Despite the delay donors continued to wait in line.

Unfortunately, the doors soon had to be closed and samples packed for shipment. The testing was open to the public without charge — sponsored by the foundation at a cost of $130,000. Blood samples were drawn by Magen David Adom (MDA acts as the Israeli Red Cross) phlebotomists in five sites throughout Israel, including Jersalem, Efrat, Tel Aviv, Rishon Lezion and Haifa.

The national campaign was three months in the making, according to co—ordinator Rosalie Lavinthal. Transportation, publicity, funding, phone banks, locations, supplies and all elements were painstakingly arranged by Friends of Jay volunteers in the New Jersey and Jerusalem offices. Feinberg commented that the co—ordination of the campaign involved "logistical creativity." Now that this major feat has been accomplished, Feinberg is confident that future Israeli drives will be easier to organize.

The intense campaign has found matches for many patients seeking donors, but none for Jay.

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Organizations and People

Eddie Ben-Tzur

Shaliach to lead UIA transformation

By MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON —United Isrel Appeal (UIA) is changing its image. And here to help bring about the change is Eddie Ben-Tzur, the first Israeli shaliach for the UIA Ontario Region Council.

Established last fall, the council consists of the three federated communities of Hamilton, Windsor and London, and all unfederated communities.

Ben-Tzur worked in the United States as a Hebrew teacher, a principal and summer camp director. In 1980 he was appointed director of the North American Youth and He'chalutz department of the Jewish Agency.

Now he's on a three-year leave of absence and is in Canada with his wife, Ruth, director of the Israel government tourist office in Canada, and their three children.

What UIA is trying to do, he said recently, is shed its reputation of "anytime that UIA wants you, it's to give money."

But UIA has never just been a fundraising organization. Rather, he pointed out, it is an organization for educating people not only about Israel and its needs but also about the community and its needs.

Rather than having just one fundraising campaign in the fall, UIA is planning a year-round campaign with more educational activities.

At its first meeting in London in January, the council discovered that smaller communities have many problems in common, foremost among them that of "outreach," i.e., getting more people involved, and developing a new, young leadership.

One of the best ways of dealing with these major challenges is through missions, and two are being planned for the spring, said Ben-Tzur.

Youth Aliyah to honor the Rabins

By MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG — Winnipeg Hadassah-WIZO is honoring Elliot and Harriet Rodin in its annual Youth Aliyah dinner on May 2 at the Westin Hotel.

The Rodins have been involved for over 20 years in Winnipeg's Jewish community. Elliot has been active in the Combined Jewish Appeal and the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC). He was a co-chair of the Operation Exodus Campaign and chaired the WJCC's budget and allocations committee. He has been a board member of the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba and the Board of Jewish Education. He is presently serving as a member of the Multiple Appeals Commission.

Harriet is currently honorary national vice-president of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO and is past president of Winnipeg Hadassah-WIZO Council. She is the founding chair of the Israel Travel Resource Centre and a board member of the Winnipeg Chapter of Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University.

One of Harriet and Elliot Rodin's major joint interests has been Canadian Hadassah-WIZO's Youth Aliyah projects. Their commitment stems from their personal experiences with Operation Moses and the ingathering of Ethiopian children to Israel. They have been co-workers for many years for Youth Aliyah. They have generously supported Hadassah-WIZO through the Chai Life Trustee program and have recently become founding members of the Hadassah-WIZO Foundation of Canada.

White supremacist speaks at U of T

By FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO — White supremacist Heritage Front leader Wolfgang Droege, along with two Front members, were recent guests at a University of Toronto political science class, causing a stir both on and off campus.

Joe Fletcher, an associate professor of political science, defends his decision to invite Droege to the third-year course on politics and psychology, in which the students have been studying the psychology of tolerance and intolerance.

Following a well-publicized University Avenue confrontation involving the Heritage Front late in January, a majority of students in Fletcher's class indicated an interest in getting first-hand information, Fletcher told *The CJN*.

In the one-hour question-and-answer session, which was followed by a one-hour class discussion after Droege left, the students asked "rigorous and probing" questions, but the proceedings remained orderly, Fletcher reports. "I was very proud of the students," he says.

The class was not compulsory, but the vast majority of students, including at least one Jewish student, chose to stay.

One of the most interesting reactions, Fletcher said, was a student's comment that he'd written the Front off as "loonytunes and not much of a problem," but now that he's seen their slickness first-hand, he's more concerned.

"Outraged"

"From my point of view it seems to have been a successful educational experience," Fletcher said. He emphasized that the invitation was an academic experience, not a political act.

Fletcher invited Tiecho Masinga, a black South African affiliated with Anti-Racist Action, to provide balance at the following week's class, but the class was postponed until this week to enable Masinga to answer questions along with Rodney Bobiwash, founder of Klanbusters and an official of the Native Canadian Centre, as well as a student representative of U of T's anti-racist action group.

The university's student newspaper, *The Varsity*, ran a front-page story last week which highlighted the praise U of T has received on the Heritage Front hotline. Anti-racist groups are "outraged," according to the *Varsity* article.

The Heritage Front's using their visit to U of T as public relations is "inevitable," says Robert Funk, communications director of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights. "It would have been better had they not been there, but I think the visit was handled in a responsible way. I think the professor was right in the sense that it's better to have the students exposed to the Heritage Front in a controlled environment rather than having them call up the hotline."

"Nobody who has a clue what a university is would think we support what they do," said Fletcher.

Jewish students were not happy about the class, said Sean Langer, Jewish Student Union president. "There's a lot of concern."

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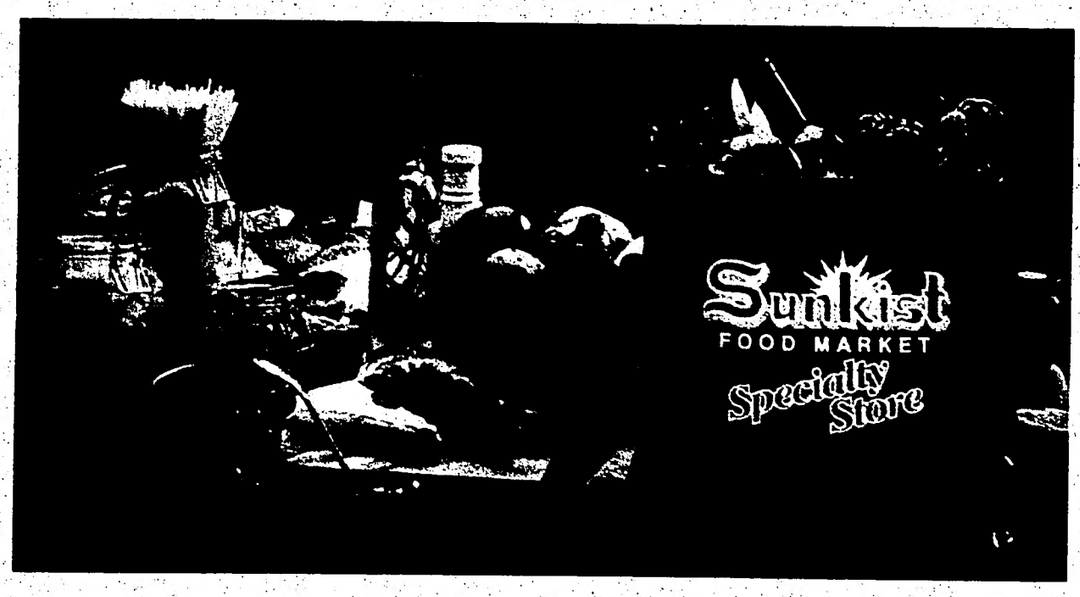

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Author set to lecture on the Arab-Israeli conflict

By CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO — "The Arab-Jewish conflict is turned on its head," says Joan Peters, the author of *From Time Immemorial: The Origins of the Arab-Jewish Conflict Over Palestine*. Peters' award-winning monumental work traces the roots of the Palestinian problem.

Peters will be the featured speaker at the Ronald Heller Memorial Lecture on March 22 at 8:15 p.m. at the Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, 100 Elder St. The lecture, which is open to the public, is sponsored by the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. Peters will speak on The Heart of the Matter: The Arab-Israeli Conflict.

The product of seven years of original research, much of it buried in untouched archives, *From Time Immemorial* has changed the terms of the debate about the conflicting claims of the Arabs and Jews in the Middle East.

Peters, who was born and educated in Chicago, unfolds an historical record that shatters the widely held belief that Arabs and Jews harmoniously co-existed for centuries in the Arab world. She notes that Jews, along with other non-Muslims, were second-class citizens, oppressed in the Muslim world for more than a millenium.

"The book is a series of discoveries, facts that exist and must not be ignored."

She thoroughly documents the facts that Jews did not displace Arabs in Palestine — just the reverse.

Peters, a former staff writer and reporter at large for the *Chicago Daily News*, has written, produced, directed and narrated CBS network news and documentaries. She served as White House consultant on the Middle East during the Carter administration and is currently vice-president of the national committee on American Foreign Policy. She has presented lectures at the U.S. State Department, and at foreign policy institutes in the United States and abroad.

Since the publication of her best-seller in 1984, Peters has appeared on more than 200 television and radio interviews and discussion programs. She is currently lecturing at schools and public forums around the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and the Middle East.

In a telephone interview she told *The CJN* that she is "amazed and pleased" at the continued interest in her book "even the passion persists about the book." She added that on the other hand, "I'm sorry that the situation persists and that the background that the book uncovers is still so buried — it's as though I never wrote the book — as though the excavation never took place."

She explains that "The Israelis are perceived as heavies — the whole Arab persuasion has managed to turn the background of the Arab-Jewish conflict on its head." The books, she says, is a background. "You can't understand the headlines unless you know the background."

When asked if she has been asked to change her position, she hesitated and replied, "The book is not a series of positions. The book is a series of discoveries, facts that exist and must not be ignored. When people read the multiple-sourced documents that back up the book's information, they make deductions from that information. If they choose, after reading it, to take positions based on the information, they can call the book my position." Individuals, she emphasized, must come to their own conclusions.

Peters spent 15 years in field and archival research relating to the Arab-Israeli conflict, interviewing leaders in Syria, Lebanon, Israel and Egypt. She interviewed refugees on the conflict and investigated various Middle East archives outside the region of confrontation, principally at Oxford and London, England, in Paris, New York, Washington and Chicago.

From Time Immemorial, which is available in paperback at the Negev Bookstore, has been used as a text book in high schools and universities in Israel. It has been translated into Hebrew, Russian, Japanese and will soon be available in German. She adds that regrettably, "it has not yet been published in French or Spanish."

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Passover Foods

Passover food baskets to feed 3,000 families

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — There's good and bad news about this year's eighth annual community Passover food drive, organized by the National Council of Jewish Women's (NCJW) Toronto section.

The good news is that this year, as last, Chai Kosher Poultry is donating some 2,000 kosher frozen chickens for use in the food baskets.

The bad news is that more people than ever will be getting the donations so that, in the words of NCJW Toronto section director Dody Rudson, "everyone can celebrate Passover with dignity."

Last year, the section distributed Passover food boxes to about 2,500 Metro families. Thanks to an economy that continued to sour over the past 12 months, this year's drive will deliver the boxes to 3,000 families in need.

"This isn't a food bank" stresses Rudson, but "our lists are bigger than ever."

Until March 26, the section will be collecting non-perishable, basic items needed to celebrate Passover: matzah and matzah meal, cake mix, tinned fish and fruits, honey, apple sauce, kosher l'Pesach wine and candles. Most of the boxes will contain a frozen chicken too.

Needy singles will receive one box while families, depending on their size, will get up to three.

The section needs volunteers to sort and collate the food and pack the boxes.

Then, beginning at 9 a.m. on the 28th, volunteers, many from B'nai Brith Canada lodges, will drive the packages to addresses provided by Jewish Family and Child Service and Jewish Immigrant Aid Services.

Various Metro companies are also donating items such as honey, candles, wine and the boxes themselves.

Rudson says non-perishable, kosher for Passover items can be brought to Council House (4700 Bathurst St.) for inclusion in the packages. Needed most are canned fish, matzah and juices.

Drivers are also needed to deliver the goodies.

Jewish day schools, synagogues, youth groups and the public are urged to collect and donate food. That's why there was a food collection bag in last week's *CJN*.

The annual drive, says Rudson, is one of the best examples of communal co-operation and volunteerism.

Volunteers may call (416) 633-5100.

(From left) Myra Manly, a JIAS teacher, JIAS student Valeri Minevitch and National Council of Jewish Women's Passover Project Co-ordinator Mindy Rosenberg display some of the food that will be distributed to needy individuals and families during the organization's annual Passover drive. Donations of 1993 Passover-approved products may be dropped off at the NCJW offices, 4700 Bathurst St., until March 26. [Alron photo]

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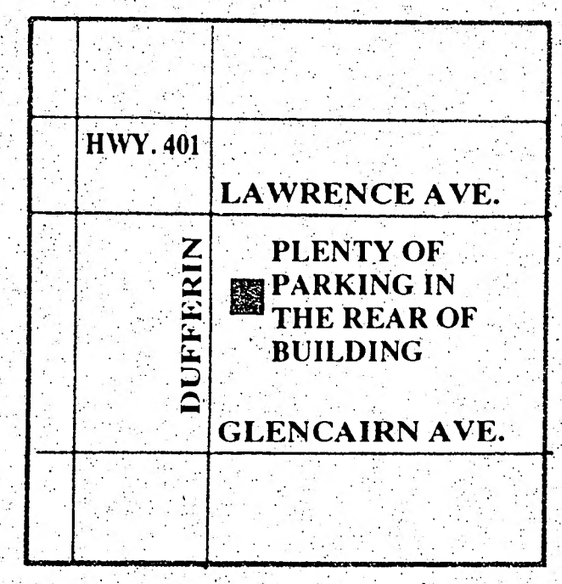

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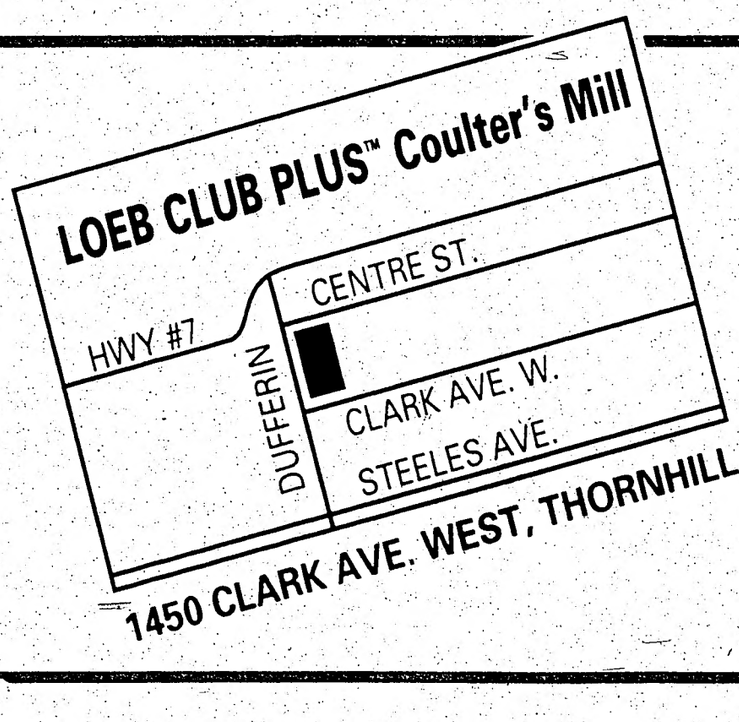

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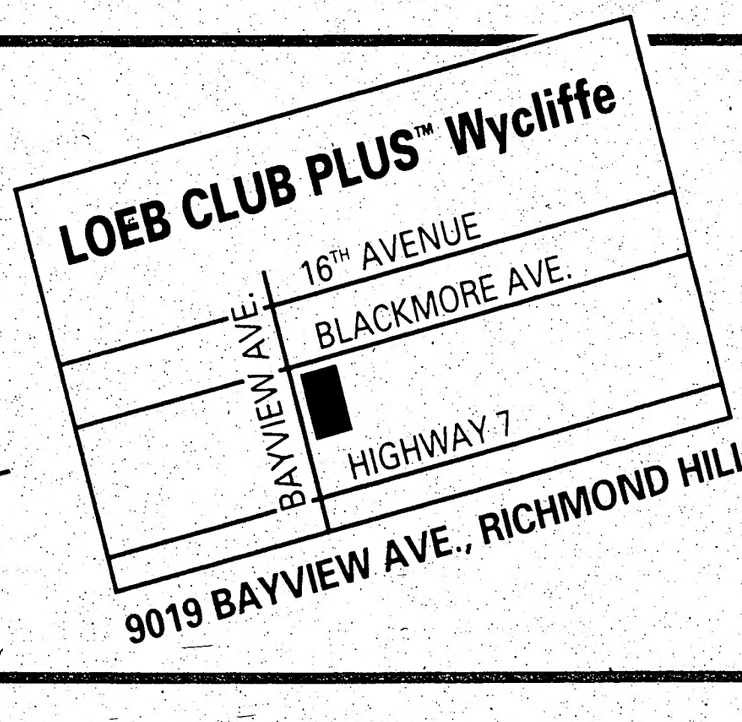

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Passover Foods

Southern-style kosher cooking

By LEILA SPEISMAN

C'mon y'all — have a refreshin' julip, while I put on the Hoppin' John and yam biscuits.

Huh?

Sorry — Mildred Covert and Sylvia Gerson's *Kosher Southern-Style Cookbook* has me under its spell.

How can you not be entranced with recipes with names like Magnolia Meat Loaf (it adds molasses to the sauce), Suwannee River Katzfish Chowder, Johnny Rebs Chicken and Sherman's Slaw-ter.

Not to mention the more traditional Green Beans Genug and Schlepper's Pie.

While many recipes are considerably spicier than traditional Jewish dishes, they are not so fiery as to be off-putting.

Dixie Chicken is deceptively simple, in fact; chicken baked with a mixture of nondairy creamer and water, celery, parsley and paprika. But it's terrific.

The chapters are divided by state (the Southern ones, of course) rather than by category, so one has to use the index extensively. Fortunately, it is a good one, and the enjoyment of rambling through the book is a definite plus.

The first recipe from each state is of authentic Civil War, or even pre-Civil War, vintage, sure evidence of a thriving Jewish community back to those turbulent times.

A really charming touch are the sketches introducing each chapter and on the cover of the book of a Chassidic man and a Confederate soldier eating or socializing together, or just one of them in a pose one would expect from the other. I liked the one where the chassid is sitting in rebel soldier boots and eating okra.

Although few recipes are suitable for Passover, try Orlando Salad as a nice side dish.

ORLANDO SALAD

1½ cups diced oranges
1½ cups shredded raw carrots
½ cup seedless raisins
1 tsp. grated orange rind
Passover French dressing
Lettuce leaves

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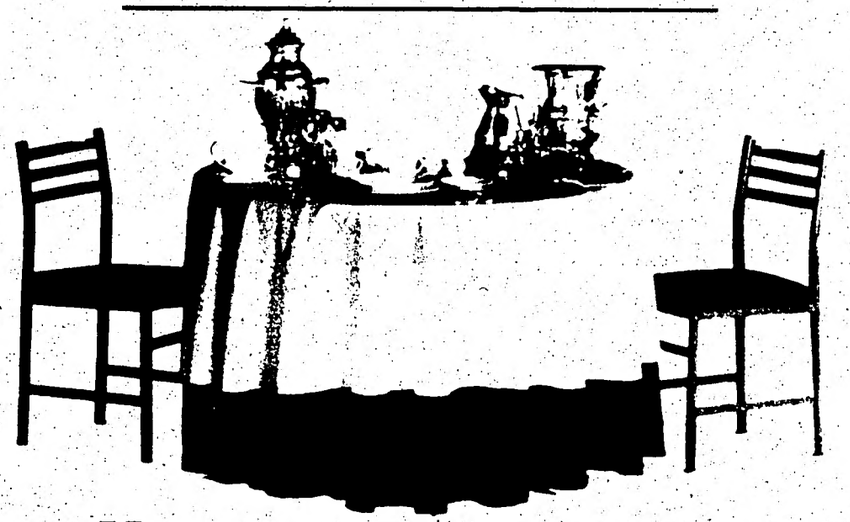

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- 3501 Yonge St., at Yonge Blvd.
- 135 Yonge St., The Arcade
- 17 Leslie St., at Lakeshore
- 245 Dixon Rd., at Islington
- 2670 Erin Mills Town Centre Blvd., Mississauga
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Passover Foods

Jewish vegetarian movement expands

The vegetarian movement among Jews is spread throughout North America. Its membership is not confined only to college students who abhor dorm food or cannot afford to buy meat, but includes people in all walks of life.

The group advocates a philosophy that goes far beyond simply not eating meat. Their purpose is to promote the practice of vegetarianism within the Judaic tradition, and to explore the relationship between Judaism, dietary laws, and vegetarianism. In practice, they oppose hurting animals for any reason, whether for food or research. Toronto has an active group. If you are interested in more information, contact Stephen Litovitz (416) 661-1116.

Jewish vegetarians look to Genesis for inspiration and support for following a vegetarian way of life. In the Garden of Eden, they cite, man was commanded to be vegetarian (Genesis 1:29-31). For additional substantiation, they point to Isaiah 11:7, where the future Kingdom of G-d on earth is depicted as one in which all creatures will be vegetarian.

This philosophical outlook has enormous impact on their observance of Passover. For instance, the Seder plate usually contains a roasted shank bone to point out the miracle of Passover, when the ancient Israelites painted their doorsteps with the blood of a lamb so the Angel of death would know to pass over their homes and spare their first born sons. Jewish vegetarians oppose the slaughter of a lamb just to have the symbolic shank bone on the table. They argue instead that the most important aspect of the holiday is the rapid departure from Egypt. They even call the holiday Hag Ha Matzoth, holiday of unleavened bread, instead of Passover.

They replace the shank bone on the Seder plate with olives, grapes, and grains of unfermented barley. They support their choice of olives and grapes with an ethical explanation based on Jewish laws of charity which provide for leaving the second shaking of the vines and of the olive trees for the poor. They suggest grains of unfermented barley because these recall the offerings of wheat which free Jews brought to the Temple as opposed to the sacrifice of the lamb which was the act of enslaved Hebrews in Egypt.

In like manner, the Seder plate usually contains a roasted egg. It symbolizes springtime and fertility. Surprisingly, Jewish vegetarians are not opposed to this symbol if the egg comes from a free range chicken, and not from a chicken raised on a factory farm.

The Passover Seder is intended to be a lively discussion, even a debate, about all kinds of issues relating to Passover, Jewish life, modern politics, and other subjects. So serving a vegetarian menu and using it as a spring board for a discussion of vegetarian ideas, animal rights, and theories of liberation might be an inspirational addition to your observance of Hag Ha Matzoth.

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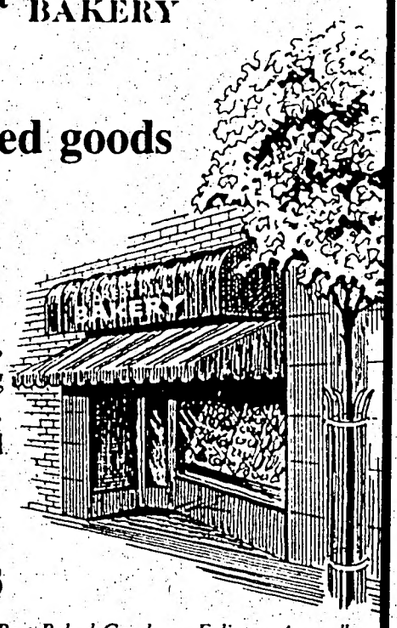

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Lokshen Pudding,
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Carrots Tzimmes,
New Dills, Cole Slaw,
Lemon Roll,
Cherry Dessert Cake,
Macaroons,
Seder Plate.

$185.00 for 10 people

MENU #2

Gefilte Fish & Horseradish,
Chicken Soup & Matzo Balls,
Roast Chicken &
Roast Brisket of Beef,
Farfel & Apple Pudding,
Pan Roast Potatoes,
Carrot Tzimmes,
New Dills, Cole Slaw,
Banana Cake,
Chocolate Cake &
Macaroons,
Seder Plate.

$215.00 for 10 people

MENU #3

Gefilte Fish & Horseradish,
Cabbage Borscht,
Whole Roast Turkey
or
Lemon Chicken
or
Veal Roast,
Farfel & Mushrooms,
Lokshen Pudding,
Stir Fry Vegetables,
New Dills, Cole Slaw,
Fruit Salad & Macaroons,
Seder Plate.

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Passover Foods

Herbs and spices liven up many healthy, fresh dishes

Spices are more popular than ever before. Fresher, healthier dishes livened up with herbs and spices are appearing on dinner plates across Canada.

Canadians consumed about half a pound of bottled herbs and spices per person each year, excluding spices used in prepared foods. The top spices of 1992 include black pepper, garlic powder/salt, onion flakes/powder, parsley leaves, oregano, basil, cinnamon, ginger, chili powder, cumin and Italian seasoning, according to McCormick Canada.

Canadians are using spices in new and innovative ways. For instance, cinnamon and ginger are considered 'sweet spices' and traditionally used in baking. Today, cinnamon is added to stews and casseroles to provide a sweet note in the seasoning. Ginger adds its warm pleasing flavor to stir frys, Japanese salads and other oriental dishes.

Italian seasoning, oregano and basil moved beyond basic Italian dishes, such as spaghetti sauce, and are perking up vegetarian recipes.

Although traditional spices are the top sellers, the spices showing the highest growth are the ones used in internationally-inspired cooking. These include cumin, turmeric, coriander, cilantro, basil and ginger, reflecting the increased popularity of Middle Eastern, Thai, Mediterranean and Mexican cuisine.

Even though you may be consistently using the same spices, it may be time to restock your spice rack. Over time spices lose their flavor and aroma especially when exposed to light and air. Store spices in airtight containers in a dark place away from sunlight, moisture and heat. Make sure you check your spices for freshness and replace each year. There are three checks to use when verifying freshness — look, smell and taste. A visual check for color fading is a good indicator of flavor loss. Taste and smell your spices and herbs; if a fresh odor or taste is not apparent, they need to be replaced.

Be sure that all spices are kosher for Passover.

This recipe can be used over fish or hamburgers during Passover. Afterwards, enjoy it on spaghetti.

Herbed Sauce

- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 can (28 oz/796 mL) tomatoes
- 1 can (5½ oz/156 mL) tomato sauce
- 1 bay leaf
- 1½ tsp basil leaves
- 1½ tsp Italian seasoning
- ½ tsp garlic powder
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- ¼ tsp salt

In large frying pan, heat oil over medium heat. Sauté onion for 2 minutes. Stir in remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat, simmer, uncovered, for about 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove bay leaf.

Variations:

Foresteria (Vegetable) Sauce: Sauté 1 medium zucchini, diced, 1½ cups (375 mL) sliced mushrooms and ½ cup chopped green pepper with onion. Proceed as above.

Tomato and Cream Sauce: Prepare sauce as above. Stir in ½ cup (125 mL) whipping cream and heat through.

Hearty Minestrone Soup

- 2 tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 medium carrots, chopped
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 medium zucchini, sliced
- 1½ cups shredded green cabbage
- 1½ cups chopped celery
- 3½ cups vegetable broth or chicken broth
- 2 tsp garlic powder

In large saucepan, heat oil over medium high heat. Sauté carrots, onion, zucchini, cabbage, and celery for 3 minutes. Stir in vegetable or chicken broth and garlic powder. Bring to a boil. Cover and simmer over low heat for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Makes 6 servings.

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Passover Foods

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MAZZAGNE AL PESTO
(Matzah Lasagna with Pesto Sauce)

2 cups pesto sauce
8 egg matzot
2 cups ricotta sauce (recipe follows)
1 cup milk

Coat the bottom of a deep square baking dish slightly larger than the matza with pesto.

Make alternate layers with uncooked matza, pesto sauce with dollops of ricotta sauce. Continue to make layers until you have exhausted all the ingredients. End with the ricotta sauce. Pour all the milk over the prepared mazzagne, cover with aluminum foil, and bake in preheated 350°F oven for 30 minutes. Serve hot or at room temperature. Serves 6 to 8.

SALSA DI RICOTTA PER PESACH
Passover Ricotta Sauce

4 tbsp. unsalted butter
6 tablespoons Passovcer cake meal
1½ cups hot milk
1 cup ricotta (or cottage cheese)

Heat the butter and flour in a saucepan and cook 2 minutes, stirring frequently. Add the milk all at once, and cook another 2 minutes, stirring vigorously with a wire whisk.

Add ricotta and simmer, stirring, until ricotta is almost completely melted. Yields approximately 2 cups.

PESTO COL FRULLATORE
(Processor or Blender Pesto)

1 cup firmly packed fresh basil leaves
6 large sprigs Italian parsley, stems removed
2 cloves garlic, coarsely cut up
½ cup pinoli (pine nuts for Sephardim) or walnut meats
¾ cup extra virgin olive oil
½ cup grated Passover Parmesan cheese
¼ cup grated Passover cheddar cheese
Salt
Freshly ground black pepper

Place the basil in the processor together with parsley and garlic. Process just until all is chopped fine. Add nuts and chop a few seconds longer.

Transfer to a sauce bowl. Add the oil and the two cheeses and stir to combine. Add salt and pepper to taste and store in refrigerator, where it will keep fresh up to 2 weeks. Let it stand at room temperature for at least 1 hour before using. Yields approximately 1½ cups.

Community celebration

Genia Borochovitch of the Ukraine remembers the last time she tasted matzah. It was at a seder in 1941, the last seder before the Nazis invaded the Soviet Union and her world was turned upside down.

Last year she celebrated Passover again, at a community centre organized by Ezras Achim Lubavitch, an organization dedicated to meeting the physical and spiritual needs of Eastern European Jewry.

This coming Passover, thanks to Ezras Achim and The Manischewitz Corporation, Genia and tens of thousands like her will celebrate a Passover abounding with the delights of the holiday.

Manischewitz has donated nearly 100 tons of kosher-for-Passover matzos, cakes and cookies to be distributed throughout the former Soviet Union. The provisions are already en route in order to reach even the most distant regions in time for the holidays.

Ezras Achim Lubavitch, established thirty years ago, has grown from a small organization helping individuals to a large international organization able to assist thousands. Officials at Manischewitz saw the impact Ezras Achim was having and welcomed the opportunity to help Jews rekindle their heritage, Rabbi Moshe Slonim, director of Ezras Achim, said the generosity of Manischewitz will enable them to provide more than 50,000 Russian Jews with a kosher holiday this year, and to expand their efforts to other Republics as well.

Genia looks forward to participating in this year's Ezras Achim seder. This year, she says, she will celebrate the festival of freedom with renewed hope for a brighter future.

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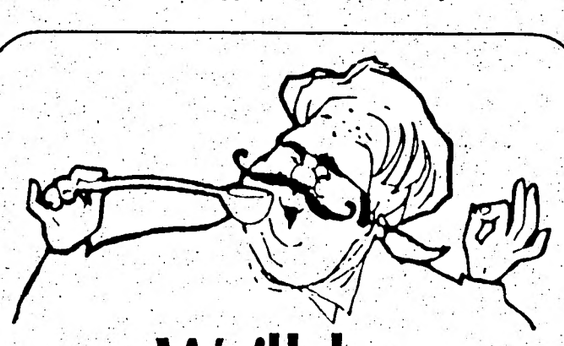
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Passover Foods

Delicious vegetarian Passover menu ideas

By LESLYE MICHLIN BORDEN

A new stimulus to my creativity on Passover is my children. As they grew up and went away to college, they came home as vegetarians. This year, they requested a vegetarian Passover feast. I always enjoy the opportunity to try something new so I accepted their suggestion to come up with a delicious vegetarian Passover menu.

What I discovered is that a lot of the preparations for a vegetarian meal are not too different from those I do for a low-fat, low-cholesterol menu. I made a big pot of vegetable stock, which is very important in all the selected recipes (except dessert). I use it in place of oil to saute the onions and garlic for the stuffed artichokes. It forms the basis of the special vegetable soup, made with only Passover appropriate vegetables. I even use it to season the matzoh balls.

Oh yes. My children want a totally vegetarian menu but they don't want to give up matzoh balls.

A vegetarian seder has a lot to recommend it. The foods are very easy to make. They benefit from advance preparation. The recipes are new and therefore exciting.

BASIC VEGETABLE STOCK

3 carrots, cut into chunks
Top half of celery bunch, including leaves, chopped
1 large onion, quartered
Several parsley sprigs
1 parsnip, peeled and cut into chunks
12-15 whole peppercorns
1 large bay leaf
Salt or lemon juice to taste

Place all ingredients in a large pot. Add enough cold water to cover. Slowly bring to a boil. Cover loosely and simmer about an hour and a half, or until the carrots and parsnip are tender. Taste and adjust the seasonings. Strain the vegetables from the broth. Refrigerate until ready to use.

Makes at least 2½ quarts (10 cups).

ARTICHOKES STUFFED IN THE YEMENITE STYLE

6 medium artichokes
Juice of one fresh lemon
1 tbsp. olive oil
¼ cup basic vegetable stock
1 cup chopped onion
1 tbsp. chopped garlic
1 hot green chili pepper, seeded and chopped Or
2 tbsp. chopped green (bell) pepper
1 large tomato, chopped
3 cups zucchini, chopped
½ cup fresh parsley, chopped
1 tsp. salt, or to taste
½ teaspoon pepper

Place about 4 inches of water in a pot large enough to hold all the artichokes in a single layer. Add salt, if desired, and the lemon juice. Cover and bring to a boil. Meanwhile, remove the stems of the artichokes. Cut off the horny tops as well. Trim away any discoloration on the outer leaves. Add the artichokes to the boiling water. Cover, and simmer 20-30 minutes, or until the leaves are tender and easily pull away from the whole. Do not overcook or the artichoke will fall apart and be difficult to stuff. When the artichokes are ready, remove from heat and drain the water immediately. Set aside to cool.

Make the stuffing. Heat the oil and vegetable stock in a fry pan with a non stick coating. Add the onion and garlic. Saute about 5 minutes, until the vegetables start to give off their own liquid. Add the chili (or green pepper), tomato, zucchini, and parsley. Stir well. Continue cooking, covered, on low heat for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove the lid. Add salt and pepper to taste. Continue cooking until all the liquid in the pan evaporates.

When the artichokes are cool enough to handle, remove the thistle. First pull out the centre leaves. Then gently open the remaining leaves. With a small spoon, remove the fuzzy thistle at the centre bottom, leaving as much of the delicious heart as possible.

Fill the artichokes with the prepared stuffing. Serve at once..

Makes 6 servings.

PASSOVER VEGETABLE SOUP WITH OPTIONAL MATZO BALLS

6 cups basic vegetable stock
2 carrots, sliced
1 cup celery, sliced on the diagonal
2 medium turnips, diced
4 cups cabbage, shredded
1 green pepper, cored, seeded, and sliced
2 large tomatoes, chopped
1 tsp. salt, to taste
Freshly ground black pepper to taste
3 green onions, chopped
¼ cup chopped parsley
Matzoh balls, optional

Place all ingredients except the salt, pepper, green onions, parsley, and matzo balls in a large stock pot. Slowly bring to a boil. Cover and continue cooking on simmer until the vegetables are tender. Season to taste.

To serve, place up to 4 matzo balls in each bowl. Ladle the soup over them and sprinkle with green onions and parsley.

MATZOH BALLS

2 eggs
2 tbsp. Passover parve margarine, melted
½ tsp. salt
½ cup matzoh meal
2 tbsp. vegetable stock or water

Beat the eggs in a small bowl. Add the melted margarine, blending well. Stir in the salt, Matzoh meal, and

[Cont'd. on page 40]

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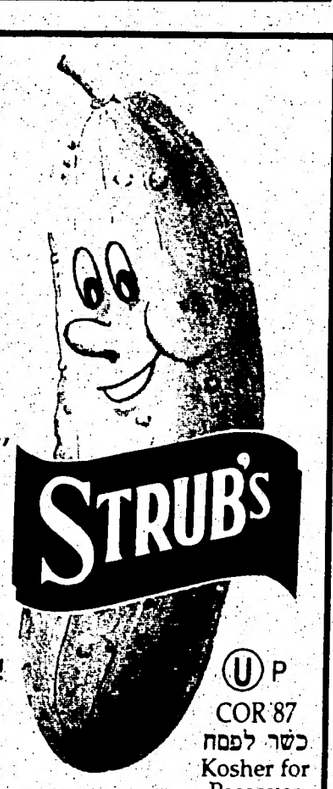

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Passover Foods

Easy-to-prepare recipes

[Cont'd. from page 38]

stock (or water). Mix well. Cover and refrigerate at least one hour.

Bring a large pot of water to the boil. Add 1 teaspoon of salt to the water. Roll about 1 teaspoon of batter into a ball. Drop it into the boiling water. Repeat with the remaining batter, wetting your hands as necessary to keep the batter from sticking. Cook the matzoh balls, covered, at simmer for 30 minutes, up to one hour if you make the bigger balls. The matzoh balls expand as they cook, so use a big pot.

To serve, place 4 balls into each bowl. Ladle hot basic vegetable stock or Passover vegetable soup over them. Serve at once.

Makes 6 servings, 4 small balls or 1 large ball per serving.

EGGPLANT LASAGNE
Made With Matzoh

1 tbsp. Passover olive oil
¼ cup vegetable stock
3 cloves garlic, chopped
¼ cup fresh parsley, chopped
1 28-ounce can tomato puree
1 tsp. dried oregano
1 tsp. dried basil
½ tsp. dried, crushed red pepper (optional)
¼ cup Passover dry red wine
1 tsp. salt, or to taste
Freshly ground black pepper
¼ cup vegetable stock
1 pound fresh mushrooms, washed and thinly sliced
Salt and pepper to taste
5 sheets matzo
1 eggplant (about 1 pound), cut into ½" slices

Prepare the sauce. In a medium saucepan, heat the oil and ¼ cup vegetable stock. Add the onions and garlic. Saute about 5 minutes, until the vegetables start to give off their own juice. Add the tomato puree, parsley, oregano, basil, crushed red pepper, and wine. Stir well. Cover and continue simmering for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add salt and pepper to taste. Set aside or refrigerate until ready to assemble the casserole. May be made ahead.

Prepare the mushrooms. In a large fry pan with a non stick surface, heat ¼ cup of vegetable stock. Add the prepared mushrooms. Season with salt and pepper. Cook over medium heat until the mushrooms give off their own juice. Turn the heat up to high and continue cooking until the liquid in the pan has evaporated entirely. (This way, your sauce will not be runny.) Add the cooked mushrooms to the tomato sauce.

Assemble the casserole. Place the 5 sheets of matzo in an 8x8 or 9x9 baking dish. Cover them briefly with cold water, turning and separating the pieces. Place the wetted matzoh on paper towels. Dry the dish and spray it with vegetable oil spray. Spread about ⅓ cup of the sauce on the bottom of the dish. Cover with one slice of matzo. Divide another slice into 4 pieces and use these to line the sides of the pan.

Heat oven to 350 degrees.

In a large fry pan with a non stick surface, heat 1 cup of the sauce. Add 4 eggplant slices. Cook about two minutes on each side, just until the eggplant softens. Place them in the casserole. Fill in the spaces with a little more sauce. Sprinkle with Passover Parmesan cheese if desired. Cover with another slice of matzo. Make two more layers, following this pattern, adding more sauce to the fry pan when necessary. End with the eggplant and sauce sprinkled with the last tablespoon of Parmesan cheese, if used. Cover with aluminum foil and bake 45 minutes. Uncover, so the top will brown, and bake an additional 15 minutes, or until the eggplant is tender.

Makes 6 servings.

PASSOVER APPLE CRISP

6 cups tart baking apples, peeled, cored and sliced
2 teaspoons lemon juice
½ cup sugar
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
Crisp matzoh meal topping (recipe follows)

Place the peeled apples in a large bowl. Sprinkle them with the lemon juice. Combine the sugar and cinnamon. Toss the apple slices with the sugar mixture.

Oil a 1½ quart baking dish (7x11). Place the prepared apples in this dish. Spread the topping over the apples. May be prepared to this point. Cover and refrigerate until ready to bake.

About an hour and half before serving time, heat oven to 350 degrees. Place the apple crisp in the oven. Bake uncovered, 40 minutes, or until apples are tender and the topping has browned.

Serves 8 generously.

Crisp Matzoh Meal Topping

⅓ cup sugar
½ cup matzoh meal
1/8 tsp. salt, optional
2 tbsp. Passover parve margarine, melted
¼ cup chopped almonds

Scrumptuous side dishes

Sometimes the hardest part of a Pesach meal is the side dishes. Try this scrumptuous Israeli salad and the unusual potato dish for a different touch to your dinner.

SABRA SALAD WITH CITRUS VINAIGRETTE

1 lg. ripe avocado, peeled and diced
Juice of ½ lemon
½ sweet red pepper, seeded and diced
2 oranges, peeled and cut in segments
1 grapefruit, peeled and cut in segments
1 lettuce, separated into leaves

Place avocado in small bowl and pour lemon juice over. Toss lightly. (Lemon juice prevents discoloration.) Stir in red pepper and set aside.

Place lettuce leaves on a salad platter. Arrange orange and grapefruit sections on top. Spoon avocado mixture in centre of dish and drizzle with citrus vinaigrette. Serves four.

Citrus Vinaigrette

2 tbsp. olive oil
⅓ C. orange juice
1 tbsp. chopped fresh mint
¼ tsp. salt

In a small bowl, whisk olive oil, orange juice, mint and salt. Use at room temperature.

UNCLE'S POTATOES

4 potatoes, peeled and cubed
1 cup matzah meal
Salt (to taste)
Pepper (to taste)
Paprika (to taste)

Mix matzah meal and seasonings. Sprinkle over potatoes, and mix well. Place and spread evenly on baking sheet, and bake in 350 oven 50-60 minutes until browned. Serves 4-6.

Experiment with other seasonings too, such as garlic powder and sugar.

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Canadian Briefs

Roast for Levin

KELOWNA, B.C. — Mel Kotler, president of the Okanagan Jewish Community (OJC), wants to wind up his six-year term as the organization's chief fundraiser in a blaze of glory, and is hoping a roast for former president Robert Levin will help.

Scheduled for May 11, the roast should bring in enough money to "make a significant dent" in the mortgage on the new OJC centre, Kotler said.

The evening's fundraising goal is $36,000. A portion of the money raised will go to the local Multicultural Society. Tickets for members are $50, $75 for others.

In other news, nine Catholic school students visited the OJC centre recently. The grade 5, 6, and 7 students from St. Joseph's Catholic School in Kelowna said they want to learn more about other religions.

The visit was conducted by Kotler and Ron Gold, religion co-chair. They explained the artifacts and Torah, and answered questions about Judaism.

Kotler said this type of program is important to the community, and is in "the direction which we hope will continue in the years to come."

— Maurice Lucow

* * *

Samuel Freedman dead

WINNIPEG — The Honorable Samuel Freedman, a former Chief Justice of Manitoba and a towering figure in Canada's Jewish community, has died. He was 85.

During his lengthy legal career, Freedman established numerous precendents. With his appointment to the Manitoba bench in 1952, he became the first Jewish judge in western Canada. In 1960, he was elevated to the Court of Appeal and in 1971, he became the first Jewish Chief Justice in Canada.

Throughout his career, Freedman remained involved in academic life. He was a part-time lecturer at the University of Manitoba Law School from 1941 until his appointment to the bench. In 1959, he returned as its first Jewish chancellor. He served three terms as the law school's chancellor, always willing to listen to faculty members and students.

In his early years, Freedman was active in the YMHA and B'nai Brith. He chaired the Winnipeg chapter of Canadian Friends of Hebrew University from 1953-1969 and was a long time member of the university's board of governors.

Freedman was honored with the Order of Canada during his lifetime and 14 honorary degrees from universities in Canada, the United States and Israel. Just last year, a bust of Freedman was placed alongside five other prominent Manitobans in the river bank development of the Forks.

— Myron Love

* * *

Parisian theme for dance

WINNIPEG — Paris in the Springtime is coming to Winnipeg this month when the local chapter of Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University's Professional and Business (P&B) Division honors its founders at a gala dinner and dance with a Parisian theme.

The P&B Division was inspired by Yude Henteleff, QC, one of the evening's honorees. Henteleff recognized the need to involve younger people in different aspects of the Jewish community. In 1985, he approached younger colleagues and acquaintances to form the division. Lawyers Murray Palay and Howard Morry, and Larry Rosenberg, a tax partner with Arthur Anderson & Co., answered the call. Today, the division has over 600 members.

In addition to honoring Henteleff, Morry, Palay and Rosenberg, Paris in the Springtime is also a fundraising event. Proceeds go towards research at the Hebrew University's Faculty of Agriculture.

The evening will feature a Parisian fashion walk-about, art and jazz, and a door prize of two round-trip tickets to Paris.

— Myron Love

* * *

Vandal sentenced

WINNIPEG — A young man has been sentenced to two months in jail and two years probation after pleading guilty to desecrating the Lubavitch Centre in North Winnipeg last Hallowe'en with swastikas and satanic symbols.

Ian Greening, 18, was also ordered to pay restitution to the synagogue.

According to his lawyer, Michael Makar, Greening intended no malice and didn't think feelings would be hurt. "He was drinking at a party," Makar says. "When others started spray painting garages and cars in the neighborhood, he joined in and got carried away. He realizes now that his was a foolish act and regrets the results."

Rabbi Avraham Altein, head of the Lubavitch Centre, believes Greening didn't act alone. "We think he did it for someone else and we think we know who else was involved," he said. "Those are the people we are afraid of but there is nothing we can do about it. The police aren't interested. No one has been in contact with us about this case since the arrest or asked us what the costs were."

Speaking for the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council, Jonathan Kroft said this was not a simple property crime. "This type of crime is dangerous because criminal conduct tends to become infectious. One thing we learned from the Holocaust is that the best way to deal with this sort of thing is to knock it out early with strong medicine."

— Myron Love

* * *

Reward posted

HAMILTON — A $50,000 reward has been posted for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for killing Morris Lax.

The well-known Hamilton businessman was found beaten to death in front of his scrap yard office last December in what seems to have been an attempted robbery.

Posters bearing a photograph of Lax have been distributed throughout the area and information given to police will be treated under strict confidence.

Anyone possessing information can contact the Hamilton-Wenthworth regional police criminal investigation department at (416) 546-4925.

— Moura Wolpert

* * *

Jews receive medals

HAMILTON — Eight of the 28 Hamiltonians recently honored with a medal were Jews.

The medal was for those who have made a significant contribution to their fellow citizens, their community or country.

Rabbi Bernard Baskin, rabbi emeritus of Temple Anshe Sholom, was honored for his work on behalf of inter-faith dialogue. Rabbi Morton Green of Adas Israel Synagogue, founder of the Hamilton Hebrew Academy Zichron Meir and the new Yeshiva Beth Yitzchak of Hamilton, also received a medal.

Other Jewish recipients included Boris Brott, former music director and conductor of the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra; Milton Lewis, past president of the Ontario Liberal Party; Dr. Franklyn Shapiro, founder of the Wilson Street Medical Centre; Andrea Stringer, an active volunteer in many Jewish and communal organizations; Chester Waxman, who most recently spearheaded a major building fund campaign for the Hamilton General Hospital; and Irving Zucker, donor of numerous works to the Art Gallery of Hamilton.

— Moura Wolpert

* * *

BBW installation

TORONTO — It was a morning of thanks and good wishes as B'nai Brith Women (BBW) of Toronto said goodbye to its old executive and welcomed the new at the organization's 41st annual installation held recently at Richmond Hill Country Club.

Newly installed president Helaine Finkelstein said that BBW gives its members the opportunity to connect with other Jewish women as well as experience personal growth. A new doll, to be used in BBW's Dolls for Democracy program, was unveiled in honor of the new president.

Marni Collier, immediate past president, thanked the executive "for a year filled with wonderful memories. Many people worked together to fulfil all our goals."

The 1993-94 executive includes Helaine Finkelstein, president; Ethy Lebow, president-elect; Linda Mendelsohn and Barbara Swimmer, vice-presidents; Noreen Shelson, treasurer; Miriam Deverett, recording secretary and corresponding secretary; Carol King, Marlene Ohayon and Donna Weinrauch, board members; Marni Collier, immediate past president.

— Carolyn Blackman

* * *

Treat for seniors

TORONTO — A group of seniors from the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care was treated to a unique, behind-the-scenes peek at the new Princess of Wales Theatre recently.

Baycrest Centre hopes to raise a record $1 million at the May 18 benefit. Anyone who makes a donation of $7,500 will get four of the best seats in the house, a special pre-performance dinner and attend a reception after the show at Ed's Warehouse restaurant.

Patrons who donate $1,800 will get two tickets, plus dinner and the reception. Good seats are also available for $350, $200, $100 and include the post-theatre reception. Proceeds will go towards expanding Baycrest's therapeutic and recreational pool activities.

Two thousand tickets are on sale, but early payment guarantees priority seating. To reserve your tickets or for more information, please call the Baycrest Women's Auxiliary at 789-7071.

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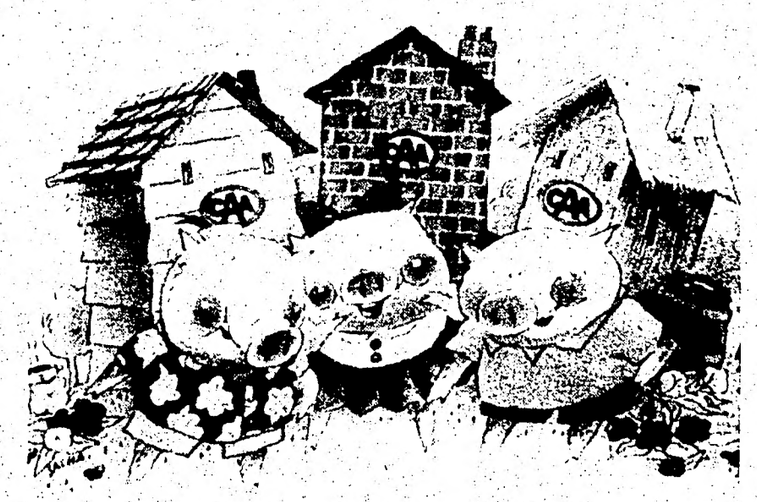

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Organizations and People

Jewish heritage remains in London's East End

By HELEN MINTZ BELITSKY

LONDON —

London's East End bustles with activity seven days a week. The crowded market in Petticoat Lane is a colorful mix of stalls, where owners peddle a dizzying potpourri of housewares and clothes. Once a centre of Jewish life and trade, the East End shops are now largely Bangladeshi run.

Though London's Jews live mainly in the northern part of the city (by the 1930s, most had moved away from the East End), traces of Jewish life still still remain for the tourist eager to learn about the history of the Jews in this city.

London boasts many city walks, and the guided tour through the East End is the best way to explore and savor the streets where Jews once lived and worked.

Jewish history in this quarter dates back to medieval times, and some people remain who can tell the story of the Jewish immigrant experience of the 19th and 20th century. This experience, both unique and universal, stands on its own as a piece of contemporary history, alive in the memories of the 800 elderly Jews who still live in the area, as well as of those who have moved away.

Only an occasional store is still owned by a Jewish merchant, but it was on these streets that many Jewish merchants made their fortunes after penniless beginnings.

In Schloss' dry goods store, Meyer Schloss, a man in his 80s, carefully cuts fabric, reluctant to talk to a reporter. At Baum's, established in 1855, Pinchas Baum still sells kosher wine in a liquor store which belonged to his father and grandfather.

At age 83, Samuel Bramfman is a preserver of memories. Raised in the East End and the owner of 174 stores throughout England, he is currently known as the character of Petticoat Lane, King of the Rag Trade, the Yiddishe Dior. Though he has moved to Chelsea Square in the West End, he returns each day to work at his East End store, across the street from where he first began to peddle dresses for five shillings apiece 70 years ago.

Bramfman's father, like other immigrants who settled the East End at the end of the 19th century, escaped the pogroms of Eastern Europe. Sailing up the Thames, these immigrants were banned from London's posh West End and shunted to the East End, which by that time had become the most notorious slum in all of London. During the peak years of immigration, 1,000 Jews were arriving at the docks in London each month.

Like most of the children of these refugees, Samuel Bramfman says he did not finish school, but went to work to supplement the family's meager income. Like these second-generation children, Bramfman recalls receiving his Jewish education at a cheder. He also attended the Jewish Free School, the largest Jewish school in the area. Founded in the early 19th century, the Free School taught the basics of Judaism, but concentrated on giving Jews a typical English education.

The East End city walk begins in the shadow of the Tower of London, alongside the remains of the old wall which once surrounded the square mile known as the city of London. Jewry Street, close by, marks the area to which Jews fled, banned from the city by King Richard the Lionhearted in 1189.

The original Jewish settlers in London were finally banished for good from the country in 1290. It was not until some 400 years later, when Oliver Cromwell rose to power, that they were welcomed back, making an era both of greater religious tolerance and a desire for Jewish financial initiative.

The tour stops at an old building where you can peek through the mail slot; deep within its interior, you can make out the outline of an old aron kodesh (Holy Ark). Once a Huguenot building, it was later converted to a small synagogue. Now closed, it is in the process of being restored as a synagogue.

The highlight of the walking tour is a visit to London's oldest standing synagogue, the Bevis Marks Synagogue. Located in a courtyard beyond locked gates, this Sephardic synagogue, built in 1701, is obviously influenced in style by the Great Synagogue in Amsterdam, opened in 1675. Bevis Marks was built by Joseph Avis, a Quaker, who reputedly refused to take money for building a "house of God."

As at London's famous synagogues in the West End — the Western Marble Arch and West London's Synagogue — guests are welcomed by a security officer. A jovial Alerich Aaron, who came to London from Rangoon via Israel, opens the gates. He is dressed in a black leather jacket and cap; the keys to the gate swing from his neck along with a yad and a large gold chain.

Sunlight streams into the synagogue from its tall Palladian windows which illuminate the striking interior. Six seven-branched brass chandeliers, symbolizing the days of the week hang from the ceiling. They are still used to light the building with candlelight on holy days after dark. Dark wooden pews facing each other and resting on wide-planked dark oak floors lean toward the austere; a centre bimah faces the Holy Ark. Twelve tall marble columns, symbolizing the 12 tribes of Israel, support the women's balcony. The ancient synagogue has remained virtually unchanged over the years.

Esther Valencia, newly appointed synagogue administrator, says sadly, "our synagogue went through two World Wars and never missed a service until April 11 of last year, when the IRA planted a bomb in the nearby Baltic Exchange. The synagogue was badly damaged, all of its windows shattered." Before our walking group left the synagogue, Alerich Aaron took up a collection for the synagogue renovation, which is nearly complete.

Some, like Valencia, whose grandparents grew up in the East End, return to the Bevis Marks Synagogue for services. Still used for regular worship, services attract about 40 people on a Shabbat and 25 on a Friday night, says Valencia. The synagogue sponsors a Sunday morning Hebrew school, where children begin their Hebrew studies at ages 5-6.

The most famous son of the Bevis Marks Synagogue is Moses Montefiore.

The walking tour ends at Bloom's, one of the city's two kosher restaurants. After grabbing a quick salt beef sandwich (corned beef in England) visit the East End bookstore, directly across the street from the Whitechapel tube, where a number of books on London's Jewish East End are on sale.

Organizations join to promote Israel to students

TORONTO — For the first time ever, three major national Jewish organizations in Canada have joined together to run an Israel summer program for Canadian Jewish youth. Called the Youth to Youth Summer Experience (ISE), the program is open to all Canadian high school students who are seeking a different, more intense and firsthand encounters with Israel.

"ISE offers its participants a number of unique experiences that are not available in most standard Israel summer programs," noted Marsha Dashefsky of Winnipeg, a long time B.B.Y.O. volunteer and one of the program's Canadian chaperones.

"During ISE the Canadian teens live and do volunteer work, in a Project Renewal community in Israel. They also spend time touring the length and breadth of the land of Israel — including a special five-day hike in the Negev — with a group of Israeli teens of the same age group.

Visits to Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Masada, the Dead Sea, Eilat, the Galilee and many other exciting locations are included in the itinerary. During their involvement in volunteer work in their respective Project Renewal communities, the Canadian participants will be hosted by the families of the Israeli teens who are also taking part in the program.

"By the time the trip is over," commented Paul Brownstein, executive director of Toronto's Jewish Community Centre, and national director of the JCCA, "the Canadian teenagers will not only have developed a love for the land of Israel — but a love for the people of Israel as well. In fact, we expect the friendships formed between the Israeli and Canadian teenagers to last a lifetime."

The four-week program is set to run from July 28 to August 23. The cost is $2,850, from all points in Canada, and scholarships are available from B.B.Y.O. for applicants in genuine financial need. The deadline for scholarship assistance is April 5.

The ISE is jointly sponsored by UIA Canada, Canadian Jewry's national Israel fundraising body, B.B.Y.O., the largest Jewish youth movement in Canada, and J.C.C.A., the organization of Canadian Jewish Community Centres.

"Co-operation between several of Canada's major Jewish organizations on this program was inspired by Charles Bronfman's recent address to the General Assembly in New York," commented Steve Ain, executive vice-president of UIA Canada.

"Mr. Bronfman emphasized the importance of the Israel experience to the future of Judaism and strongly encouraged Jewish organizations to work together to maximize the number of young people visiting Israel on organized educational program.

"ISE offers Canadian youth an exciting oportunity to learn more about Israel and their Jewish heritage, while at the same time, allows them to make their own personal contribution to the upbuilding of the State of Israel," he added.

For information and/or application forms for the Youth to Youth Israel Summer Experience, please contact your local B.B.Y.O./JCC office or Eli Rubenstein, UIA Canada, at (416) 636-7655.

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Composer John Weinzweig still comes out swinging

By PAULA CITRON

John Weinzweig

TORONTO — The years have not mellowed John Weinzweig.

The "Dean of Canadian Composers" is celebrating his 80th birthday this year but he is still the outspoken advocate of new music in this country.

At an age when most people are content to rest on their laurels, Weinzweig still comes out swinging. The composer does not hesitate to cast bricks at cultural icons like the Toronto Symphony Orchestra (TSO) and the CBC.

"The TSO," he states categorically, "is no longer relevant to my music or my life. The programming policy indicates a fear of Canadian music and a fear of the audience. They dare not play anything off the 19th-century beat, which I call 'tone-washing' the audience.

"The TSO is programming style and not music. If they consistently included pieces by 20th-century composers like Stravinsky and Hindemith, they would educate an audience who could then see the relevance that Canadian music has to be the major trend of the century.

"Even when I was commissioned by the TSO to compose a work for the opening of Roy Thomson Hall, I felt I didn't belong in that venue. I was surrounded by walls that reverberated to the past and my music seemed like an intrusion on the acoustics of the place," he said. Weinzweig may not have felt comfortable there but was awarded the Roy Thomson Hall Prize in 1991 for cultural achievement.

Weinzweig is a hero to the many students who passed through his hands at the University of Toronto and the Royal Conservatory — a veritable Who's Who of Canada's leading composers and musicians. To honor his birthday, the Toronto music community recently mounted a retrospective concert of his works at U of T's Walter Hall featuring a string orchestra conducted by Victor Feldbrill and a host of important instrumental soloists.

Weinzweig is also critical of CBC Radio, although the composer concedes that he owes his career to CBC. He has paid the price for his outspokenness because his music has virtually disappeared off the air, although ironically, his birthday concert will be broadast on a future *Arts National*.

"My complaint about the CBC," he said, "is that since 1976, they've opened the airwaves to more pop music and taken on the philosophy of playing repertoire to accommodate a short attention span. This is the philosophy of commercial stations and so, as a director for the CBC, it becomes a serious matter. The CBC, in the past, has been a strong supporter of Canadian composers but I'm concerned that this mandate is being watered down in order to compete with private stations. The serious composers are angry with the 'pop power' that has penetrated the CBC."

Weinzweig was the first Canadian composer to work with the 12-tone system developed by Viennese composers like Borg and Webern. He was introduced to this system when he took his master's degree at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y.

Broken traditions

"When I was 19, I decided to become a composer, just like that," Weinzweig said. "I loved music so much, I wanted to make my own compositions. Basically, I'm self-taught because during my time at University of Toronto (as an undergraduate in music), composition wasn't recognized as a discipline even though I wrote a string quartet for my graduation exam.

"I didn't have good teachers at U of T. They had no interest in creative thinking; they just wanted you to emulate classical models. Eastman was good for me because it was the school for composers. I learned how to experiment with the creative process."

Although Weinzweig admits that his ambition was to go to Hollywood and write for film, he returned to Toronto upon graduation from Eastman in 1938 because of the Depression. After several tough years of eking out a living as a music teacher, Weinzweig began composing background music for National Film Board (NFB) documentaries and CBC radio plays, a career cut short by service in the Air Force Band School until the end of the Second World War.

He returned to the NFB and CBC, but wanted to write foreground music instead. By 1951 he was writing only concert music and in 1952 was appointed to U of T's Faculty of Music as a teacher of composition where he remained until retiring in 1978.

During these years, Weinzweig's reputation grew beyond Canada to embrace the international music community with his works being performed both at home and abroad.

"I've broken with old traditions inherited from Europe," Weinzweig said. "I'm tuned into our environment with my music. I've turned down commissions, like the one from Charles Dutoit and the Montreal Symphony, because they've ignored my repertoire in the past. I'm against a colonial mentality that wants serious music to be a branch plant of a foreign culture."

Weinzweig founded the Canadian League of Composers in 1951 and was co-founder of the Canadian Music Centre, the repository of new music scores, in 1959. In recognition for his pioneering work, he received the Order of Canada in 1974 and the prestigious Molson Prize in 1981 for those whose artistic career has influenced the country at large.

"I'd probably be further ahead if I'd kept my mouth shut, but if there is no struggle, there is no achievement. When I started the Canadian League of Composers, there were eight members. Now there are 350 associate composers with the Canadian Music Centre. If I was outspoken, it's because I wanted to help develop our own music in our own society."

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Organizations and People

Shane Grosman sits in the Camaro he drove last year to rookie of the year honors. [Paul Lungen photo]

Top speeds hook stock car driver

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO — The Camaro convertible parked in the lot in front of his Markham, Ont. shop should give some indication that 20-year-old Shane Grosman loves fast cars.

For most people, the convertible itself would be a muscle car, but for Grosman, it's the car he drives to get to his real muscle car.

This year, that'll be a 5.7 litre Camaro equipped with a LT1 Corvette engine. With the proper coaxing from an adept driver, it can reach a speed of 260 kilometres an hour — warp 9 in the world of stock car racing.

Grosman, along with his 22-year-old brother Sean, is a stock car driver who competes in Canada's top races while watching the world go by in a blur.

Last year, he raced in the Player's Ltd./GM Motorsport Series East against 40 of the best stock car drivers in Canada. After races in the Toronto, Montreal, Halifax and Vancouver Grand Prix, and Mosport races in Bowmanville and Cayuga, he finished 12th overall, just behind brother Sean, who placed 11th.

Backed by sponsors like STP, the Landing Strip, Elite Auto Collision, J.R. Rodin Insurance and Bob Johnston Chev Olds, Shane went on to be named the series' rookie of the year.

For Grosman, there's nothing to compare with the adrenalin rush that comes from racing on the edge of controllable speed. He believes, "It's the biggest high that I think I'll ever get. You get out of the car and you're flying high."

Grosman comes by his love for motor sport honestly — you might think he's got motor oil flowing in his veins instead of blood. As far back as he can remember, his father Ben was always interested in racing and in collecting Corvettes.

As a peach-fuzzed kid, only a few years old, Shane was given a minibike powered by a small lawnmower engine.

At age 11 he was driving dual-engined go-karts and at 13, along with brother Sean, he began competing against others. Lest you think go-karts generate more noise than speed, Grosman points out they can reach speeds of 100 miles per hour.

Four years ago, Sean began racing professionally and later, Shane enrolled in racing schools, including the presigious programs at Charlotte Motor Speedway in Charlotte, NC, and at the Atlanta Motor Speedway in Georgia.

That allowed him to improve the technical aspects of his driving. "I like to pride myself that I became smooth before I became fast," he said.

Translated into layman's terms, that means knowing when to decelerate and when to accelerate. A lot of drivers who head into turns at breakneck speed have to brake quickly and as a result lose time, he said. "I'll sacrifice speed going into a corner and accelerate faster going out."

For many who don't immerse themselves in the high-speed sport, car racing appears to be an accident waiting to happen. But Grosman says "we don't consider racing dangerous." He's more nervous driving on the 401 than on racing ovals.

But so far, he hasn't managed to escape the accident bug. In 1988, he fractured both femurs, sprained an ankle and pulled every muscle in both legs in a go-kart accident when four vehicles went into a corner that had room for only two. His kart collided with another, flipped over four times, and ran up into a wire restraining fence.

He spent the next two months in bed.

Despite the accident, Grosman decided to lay any fears to rest by getting right back behind the wheel.

And though he's an enthusiastic driver, he doesn't see racing as a full-time professional career. Though he'll participate in the Endurance Road Racing Championships this summer, he and Sean are planning other careers. They're both students in the commerce department at the University of Toronto and Shane said he plans to make driving a summertime vocation.

Sean Grosman, like his brother, began driving go-karts at about 11 and at 16. He's won several international races, including the Dual World Karting Association Race in New York as well as the Evil Engine Shootout in Ontario.

His best finish in the Player's/GM Series was 7th at Cayuga, a 10th in Halifax and 11th overall in the final standings.

Taking applications for Sports Challenge

NEW YORK — Exciting news for young Jewish athletes! The Israeli Sports Challenge, under the sponsorship of the YM-YWHA of Bergen County (NJ), a member agency of the Jewish Community Centres Association of North America, is now accepting applications from girls and boys, 15-17 years of age, to take part in a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Those selected will spend 6 weeks in Israel this summer (June 30 through August 11), concentrating on the sport of their choice — basketball, tennis, swimming, or soccer (boys only). The program includes training, participating in competitions, and experiencing the land of Israel firsthand through living with Israeli families and touring the country.

The athletes will be accompanied by top North American coaches. They will be matched with Israeli athletes and international-level Israeli coaches for two weeks of training and competition with top Israeli clubs.

A 10-day, five-star Sports Camp at Israel's Olympic training site, the Wingate Institute, will highlight the stay. In addition, they will attend the opening ceremonies and key events of the Maccabiah.

For additional information, including a brochure describing the program in detail, contact Herb Levine at the YM-YWHA of Bergen County, 605 Pascack Road, Washington Township, NJ 07675, or call 1-800-5-ISRAEL.

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Ontario

COMMISSION ON SYSTEMIC RACISM IN THE ONTARIO CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

NOTICE

The Commission was established by the Attorney General for Ontario on October 26, 1992. The Commission will inquire into, report upon and make recommendations with respect to systemic racism and the extent of its impact on the Ontario criminal justice system. The inquiry will include an examination of charges; bail; judicial, Crown and defence decision-making; sentencing; the use of discretion in adult and youth correctional facilities; community policing and the development of measures designed to prevent and eliminate systemic racism.

The Commission invites written, audio and video-taped submissions by interested individuals and groups, to be delivered to the address shown below by April 30, 1993.

Informal hearings/meetings will be scheduled at convenient locations at which interested parties may participate. Further notice of these hearings/meetings will follow.

Copies of the Commission's information booklet and the Terms of Reference are available at the office at the address below.

Co-chairs
Commission on Systemic Racism in the
Ontario Criminal Justice System
Suite 2004
180 Dundas Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5G 1Z8

Margaret Gittens, Co-chair
David P. Cole, Co-chair
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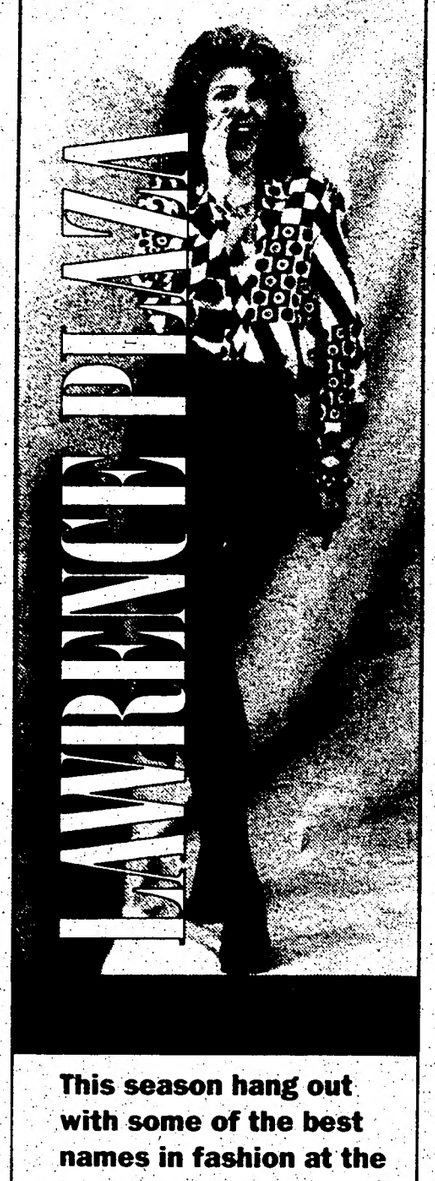

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Ofra Harnoy to play at charity fundraiser

By PAULA CITRON

TORONTO — Gala benefit concerts showcasing star performers are time-proven charity fundraisers.

The Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital, however, are going one step further to raise money for the venerable Israeli Geriatric Research Institution. They are creating an event.

On March 25, a ballroom at the Inn on the Park will be transformed into a glittering 19th-century European royal reception hall designed to evoke the opulent musical soirees of a bygone age. The jewel at the centre of this will be a gorgeous princess — outstanding Canadian-Israeli cellist Ofra Harnoy.

Only 28 years old, Harnoy has already had a career that would fill several lifetimes. A multi-prize winner, she has recorded over 30 acclaimed albums and is one of the busiest classical artists on the international circuit. Although time does not permit Harnoy to give as many benefit concerts as she would like, she's particularly delighted to perform in this gala.

The CJN caught up with Harnoy at her Toronto home as she was about to take off on another whirlwind tour. In fact, this year Harnoy is globe-trotting 10 out of the 12 months, which begs the question of why she spends so much time on the road. "I have to establish and re-establish my name," she explains. "Each country is separate; they each have their favorite artists so it takes years to earn respect when you're a newcomer. Each time you visit a country, you have to better your past success until you establish yourself as a favorite."

One place where Harnoy has had unparalleled success is Japan. Her reputation there has created a pathway to other Asian venues like Korea and Taiwan. Says Harnoy: "I've toured Japan eight times and I think my popularity is due to the fact that I give them what they want. I am able to pour out the emotion that they culturally must conceal and they love me for this. And once the Japanese love you, they idolize you."

Ofra Harnoy

In fact, Harnoy was asked to write articles for a Japanese music magazine. So popular were her writings that they have been gathered together in book form. In the final analysis, Harnoy calls the love affair between the Japanese and herself one of perfect communication — an artist opens herself up and this vulnerability is deeply appreciated by a people conditioned by custom to avoid intense displays of emotion.

Emotion is the key to Harnoy's particular style. "Over the years," she says, "it's the one thing that's never changed — my ability to communicate emotion by musical expression. As a child, it may have been different, but emotion has always been there." Harnoy relates an amusing story. Her father played her a recording of a cello soloist and asked her to guess who it was.

She was moved by the heart-felt angelic beauty and was most surprised to discover it was a recording she had made when she was ten. "My music has always emotionally reflected the various stages of my life," she adds.

The cello was chosen for Harnoy by her parents because her father played the violin and her mother the piano; with Ofra mastering the cello, the family could then play piano trios. Her parents did not realize they had a musical prodigy for a daughter. Harnoy made her solo debut at 10, four years after immigrating to Canada. Eighteen years later, there are few major orchestras world-wide she has not appeared with.

Ironically, her career in Israel, the country of her birth, has been less than stellar. "I've been treated as a deserter. Imagine a 6-year-old who's been taken away by her parents being a deserter, but until now, I've only been presented at second rate concerts in Israel. Finally this is going to change because in October I'm appearing with the Israeli Philharmonic in their season opening concert. It's almost embarrassing how long it's taken for me to play with the orchestra, but it proves that I'm now being acknowledged as an international artist."

One would assume that Harnoy's career has been an easy romp, but the cellist regards her success as the result of dogged persistence. "I haven't had a big break that catapulted me instantly into the limelight; no patron has donated a Stradivarius cello for me to play," she points out. "I've also encountered a lot of prejudice because I'm a woman and because of my age and looks. Classical music is not a woman's world. Stuffy old academic critics in Europe have had a hard time taking me seriously and they regard me as more of a pop star. There's been a lot of resistance and I've had to push hard to gain respect."

Is Harnoy all work and no play? "My situation is unusual because my life is anything but routine, but I believe that it can all happen, a successful musical career and a successful personal life. Right now my choice is to concentrate on consolidating my reputation so I have to do a lot of touring and it can be very lonely; I usually have one of my parents or my accompanist along because I don't want to travel by myself. On the other hand, this kind of life really shows you who your real friends are because my frequent absences are a true test of friendship. A lot of my friends have nothing to do with music and this makes me a whole person because I can talk to them about other subjects."

Among Harnoy's interests are designing the romantic dresses which are her concert trademark, communing with nature and going to the theatre and movies. And above all, she loves to cook, taking great delight in experimenting with new dishes. "Food," she declares, "is instant gratification."

Film

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

"Swing heil!"

In *Swing Kids*, rebellious German teenagers opposed to the Nazi regime use this quirky salutation to greet each other. The standard Nazi greeting of the day, sieg heil, is definitely verbotten as far as they are concerned.

These youngsters are at odds with the Nazi authorities because they positively love American jazz — which is frowned upon by the government as "nigger-kike music" — and because they have somehow managed to evade Hitler Jugend membership.

Rebels with a cause, they listen to contraband records by the reviled Benny Goodman and Duke Ellington and dance the nights away in crowded clubs filled with kindred spirits.

Swing Kids, now playing at Famous Players theatres, is set in 1939 in Hamburg, although it was actually shot in Prague. It revolves around two young men, Peter (Robert Sean Leonard) and Thomas (Christian Bale), both of whom recoil from the mores propounded by the Nazis.

In time, Peter flirts with Nazism before entirely rejecting it, while Thomas embraces it wholeheartedly. Their disabled friend, Arvid (Frank Whaley), remains unstintingly true to his beliefs, a fervent anti-Nazi to the bitter end.

Behind the glitter of *Swing Kids*, with its riveting choreography and its beguiling musical score, is a far more serious story, a cautionary tale, if you will.

In a totalitarian society, such as Nazi Germany, the possibilities for co-option are limitless, as Peter and Thomas discover. And this, finally, is the nub of *Swing Kids*, which, in passing, unmasks the ugly face of Nazi anti-Semitism.

Early on, a pack of Hitler Jugend pounces upon a Jewish man like frenzied beasts. There is a chilling excerpt from *The Eternal Jew*, the most obscene anti-Jewish propaganda film to come out of Nazi Germany, wherein Jews are compared to rats. There is a Hitler Jugend classroom scene in which Aryan and Jewish features are compared unfavorably.

In general, the tone of *Swing Kids* is credible. But occasionally, it descends into mawkishness and downright silliness.

[Cont'd. on page 47]

Advt. Advt.

Leisure Pleasures

By VIVIENNE MUHLING 422-2331

RATBAG, a vibrant new musical opens March 25 (special low cost previews March 19-20). Our own **Leah Cherniak** co-directs a great cast, many of whom CJN readers know well: **Daniel Kash, Kate Hennig, Iraina Neufeld, Benedict Campbell**, et al. **Allen Cole** is Musical Dir. Comedy & drama, yours to enjoy at the **St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front St. E., 368-3110.**

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Books

By BERNARD BASKIN

Towers of Debt: The Rise and Fall of the Reichmanns, by Peter Foster (Key Porter Books, $29.95).

At it's peak, less than a decade ago, the Reichmanns' family company, Olympia and York, was the world's largest real estate empire. It controlled more than 40 buildings in North America with some 43 million square feet of rentable space. First Canadian Place, one of its prime properties, contained the largest bank building anywhere. In 1977 the company purchased eight Manhattan skyscrapers in what was termed the "deal of the century." It also developed New York's architecturally acclaimed World Financial Centre.

With astonishing aplomb the Toronto Reichmann Brothers — Paul, Albert and Ralph — engaged in a series of successful real estate developments and acquisitions, each larger, riskier and more complicated than the last. They seemed to be invulnerable. *Forbes Magazine* listed the family among the four richest in North America.

Yet, suddenly and inexplicably, the empire began to totter. Frenzied financial deals and manipulations failed. Its collapse was, according to *Time* magazine, "The world's biggest private bankruptcy filing."

In this unprecedented saga of success and failure there is, of course, high drama. Peter Foster is a veteran journalist with a special interest in business. In *Towers of Debt* he takes a close look at the legendary Reichmanns and traces their complex takeovers of Gulf Canada and Hiram Walker, as well as their unfortunate involvement with the mercurial Robert Campeau which cost the family $600 million U.S.

Virtues of this analysis include the author's long-time interest in the Reichmanns which resulted in his earlier book *The Master Builders* (1986), his first hand interviews with key players in the story and his ability to clarify convoluted financial transactions.

Why were banks eager to lend prodigious sums of money to the Reichmanns on the basis of little or no information? Evidently they were bedazzled by the family's stature and reputation.

The author describes Paul Reichmann this way: "Polite and courtly, shy and sensitive, he always appeared quite without vanity or personal pride. He dresses somberly, and invariably, in a dark suit and tie, white shirt and black shoes. He always wears a yarmulke or homburg, a sign that he is a servant of his God." Far from being a financial genius, however, Paul made many mistakes. His attempts to diversify were often unwise and ill-timed. And despite his reputation for a lack of greed or ambition his drive for acquisition was always strong and unmistakable.

Towers of Debt is certainly not the last word on a riveting and fascinating Canadian story — but it will serve for now as a perceptive and knowledgeable account by a keen business-watcher and astute reporter.

Ellen Gould stars in "Bubbe Meises, Bubbe Stories".

Bubbe Meises are great fun on stage

By GERRY MORRIS

NEW YORK —

Remember your bubbie's homely wisdom and fascinating tales? We all had two of them. Two grandmas. Two bubbies. *Bubbe Meises, Bubbe Stories* is a loving and personalized musical tribute to those spirited immigrant grandmothers and the heroic legacy they left us. Their toughness smattered with humorous tales and observations, enabled them to adjust less painfully to the extremely difficult forces in this strange and sometimes hostile land — America. Oy America!

For the more anglicized reader, bubbie meyse (pronounced bubba-myse-a) is of Jewish/Yiddish derivation, and means old wives' tale, fantastical story or superstition, and it is to be noted that these stories always end with a moral.

A few sample bubbie meyses:

Don't buy a pair of shoes for people you love because they'll use them to walk out on you.

When you are ill, take a new name to fool the angel of death.

Don't sew a button on yourself without putting a piece of thread between your teeth or you'll sew your brains up.

In *Bubbe Meises, Bubbe Stories,* author and performer Ellen Gould pays homage to her grandmothers in a charming and touching musical journey of family history and discovery, including the prejudicial conditions that forced her grandparents from their native lands. At a personal crossroads, the granddaughter probes her roots and traditions through the bubbies' classic tales of tzuris and triumphs, that they hope will strengthen the young women's stability through her identifying more strongly with family influences.

The show begins with striking stage portraits of the two bubbies. Both are very real and very different. Her maternal grandmother, Bubbie Gittie, starts out as a dyed-in-the-wool socialist, and becomes a dedicated philanthropist who passes down her social consciousness to her children and grandchildren.

Her other grandmother, Annie, is a free-spirited and passionate woman who exhorts her granddaughter to grab on to every morsel life has to offer. It is one she terms the Bubbie Moral: "Take more out of life than it takes out of you."

The ninety-minute cabaret musical features 11 songs, which include bittersweet and melodious originals by Gould and composer/lyricist Holly Gewandter, and other nostalgic songs from traditional sources played on the piano by musical director Bob Goldstone, all under the sharp and impeccable direction of Gloria Muzio. Gould not only plays all the characters, but sings all the songs with warmth and honest feeling, conjuring up a more innocent and romantic era. Whether your bubbies hail from Poland, Vitebsk, the Ukraine, or Spadina-College, it's still a rewarding and sentimental journey in memory and time.

Appearing for an indefinite run at Cherry lane Theatre, 38 Commerce St.

For tickets call 212-989-2020.

Film

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

[Cont'd. from page 46]

At a club, Arvid launches into a tirade against the Nazis. "What's the matter with all of you?" he cries. "Can't you see what's happening? Are you afraid to look?" A bit overwrought, to say the least.

After two of the characters are beaten up by Hitler Jugend, they respond with this irrelevant retort: "It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing!"

Despite such embarrassing lapses, *Swing Kids* maintains a fairly even keel of respectability. And the performances are workmanlike. Robert Sean Leonard, Christian Bale and Frank Whaley acquit themselves honorably. In his dance routines, Leonard is liquid gold. Kenneth Branagh is fine as a fatherly Gestapo agent, while Barbara Hershey, as Peter's faintly anti-Nazi mother, is more or less convincing.

Swing Kids is a zesty, fast-moving film with a universal message. While it is short on substance, it is long on solid entertainment values.

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Travel

Enjoy seder away from home

By ROSE KLEINER

TORONTO — With more women in the work force, families spread out and a large number of people living alone, a resort holiday at Passover can be very appealing.

Families living far apart can select a midpoint to meet for both the holiday celebration and a reunion. Singles will find Passover an excellent time to meet people in a congenial, relaxed setting.

This year, for a strictly kosher Passover, one can head for the mountains, the islands, and the ocean. The locations are diverse: Florida, Mexico, Bermuda, Switzerland, and, of course, Israel.

In the Catskills, the Concord, the Homowack, the Nevele and Friar Tuck Inn are all open for Passover. At the latter there will be daily Torah classes, and the Concord will have klezmer music and special shows for children and teens.

Seasons Resort at Great Gorge, N.J., and the Ramada Hotel of East Hanover are both within easy reach of New York City. Box lunches are provided for those spending a day in Manhattan. Among the plays to see are *Conversations With My Father, The Sisters Rosensweig, Guys and Dolls, Miss Saigon, Beau Jest*, and *Bubbe Meises*.

The photography of Roman Vishniac, on view at Manhattan's International Center of Photography, is a poignant documentation of life in the Jewish communities of Eastern Europe just prior to World War II.

In Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains, the Tamiment Hotel is hosting Toronto's Orthodox singles group during Passover. Entirely kosher for Passover, the huge resort offers boating on its 90-acre lake, a health club, just about every sports activity and Israeli dancing.

The nearby Pocmont Spa and Resort in Bushkill will have cultural programs and separate swimming. Also in the Poconos, the Mountain Laurel Resort will serve only shmura matzohs, with entertainment by Shlomo Carlbach.

On the West Coast the beautiful, oceanfront Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel will again become a Passover site. A synagogue and social, cultural and sports programs are all part of the Passover package. In San Diego, the Carmel Highland Resort's Passover package has complimentary access to the health club.

In Florida, there are numerous places for spending Passover. The Radisson Inn and Aquatic Center and the Sheraton World Resort in Orlando both come with free transportation to Disney World, Epcot, Universal City and Sea World.

In Palm Beach, the entire Ritz Carlton will be kosher for Passover, and in Miami Beach the fabulous Fountainebleu Hilton Resort and Spa will host the First Annual Passover Retreat of the Jewish National Fund. Guests will have free admission to the spa, a Casino Night, and an outdoor Western Barbecue.

The popular Saxony Hotel is now in its 20th year of hosting guests for Passover. Sports facilities include tennis courts, a heated pool, and health club.

The Doral Ocean Beach Resort will also be kosher for Passover this year, and even has a three-night package for the holiday.

Other hotels in Miami Beach open for Passover are the Versailles, the Crown, San Souci, and Eden Roc.

While in Florida, visitors can enjoy the lively arts scene. Some of the plays running in April are the musical *The Boy Friend* at Boca Raton's Caldwell Theatre, and the drama *The Dining Room* in Hollywood.

Pianist Bruno Leonardo Gelber will play at Temple Beth El, Boca Raton, on April 8.

Art Spiegelman's *Maus* comics are on view at Fort Lauderdale's Museum of Art until April 11. Russian Painting, 1900-1940, from the collection of the State Russian Museum, is at the Bass Museum in Miami Beach.

There are several package tours to the Caribbean islands. The Great Bay Resort of St. Maarten, The Condado Plaza Hotel and the Sands Hotel in Puerto Rico, will all host Passover guests. The Conrad of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, and Bermuda's Sonesta Beach Hotel and Spa will also be open for Passover. The latter promises a very British, very distinctive experience. Meals will be served by New York City's Levana Restaurant.

A Passover cruise to Miami and the Bahamas is available through Mizrachi Tours of New York.

Sunny Israel lures Hadassah-WIZO meet

By DEBBIE LIGHTSTONE

TORONTO — It's 9:30 on a cold, snowy mid-February morning, and six people are gathered around a table working out the details of a trip that's nine months away.

The're planning Canadian Hadassah-WIZO's 34th national convention in Israel, Nov. 21-Dec. 1, and the magical lure of Israel is already getting these women excited.

"This will be my 12th visit there in three years, but I'm never bored. There's always something new. When I go to Israel I feel I'm touching base with the soul of the Jewish people," said national president Esther Matlow.

The convention is Hadassah-WIZO's third to be held in Israel and is the first to include a communal bat mitzvah celebration.

This will be no ordinary bat mitzvah celebration.

On this 75th anniversary of the organization's founding, 75 adult women will participate in a group bat mitzvah ceremony on Mount Scopus in Jerusalem.

Matlow is one of 11 Toronto women who, like Hadassah-WIZO women in centres across the country, have organized study groups with a rabbi or cantor to complete the necessary instruction.

"My three daughters all had a bat mitzvah, but I never did. In my time it was not done. I think it's wonderful that 75 women want to express their link with the Jewish people in this way. The significance of having the ceremony in Jerusalem has inspired them to study the Jewish sources," Matlow said.

Another unique part of the trip will be the bringing of a Sefer Torah to Israel. Members of the Halifax Hadassah-WIZO chapter will deliver the holy scroll, donated by the Agudath Achim Synagogue in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, to the Kehillat Kol Haneshama Synagogue in Jerusalem.

The convention will include meetings and briefings with top Israeli political and military leaders, and tours of Hadassah-WIZO's many projects in Israel, such as Asaf Harofe Hospital in Zerifin, the Hofim Absorption Centre for Ethiopian Youth near Acco, and the Magdiel Youth Village and Vocational School near Kfar Saba.

There will also be a special spouse's program, including a medical seminar at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem.

The convention organizers are anticipating a record registration of over 600 women: more than one third of that have already committed themselves. They are coming from all over the country, not only from the big cities, but from small communities like Sarnia and Petrolia in Ontario, North Battleford in Saskatchewan and Cold Lake, Alberta.

Specially decorated

Travel arrangements are being handled by Aufgang Travel.

And due to the large number of participants, the Israel Government Tourist Office is also getting involved.

"We are excited and grateful that Hadassah-WIZO is having its convention in Israel," said Ruth Ben-Tzur, director of the tourist office. "They know how much we need tourism. We are fighting to show Canadians that we are a tourist destination. We say, you have Florida in Israel — use it!"

To accommodate the participants, El Al has scheduled two special non-stop Sunday flights, from Toronto and from Montreal.

Ben-Tsur said the aircraft will be specially decorated for the occasion, and there will be special menus.

The conventioneers will be welcomed in Tel Aviv by children from the Hadassim Children and Youth Village near Netanya, and there will be a special reception to mark the arrival of the Sefer Torah.

TRAVEL TALK

By LEN BUTCHER

Remember last week I told you the **Dragon Lady** was going to **Florida** for two weeks and how happy I was. Well, she must have heard about it and placed a curse on me.

First of all, one of our reporters, **Leila Speisman**, took sick and was off for most of the week, further diminishing our already short (no-one is over 5'8") staff. The following day, I received a phone call from **Jeff Rosen's** wife **Lisa,** telling me that **Jeff** is in hospital having his appendix out and to scratch him from the lineup for probably the next two weeks.

The nerve of some people. He couldn't put up with the pain for another week until the **Dragon Lady** gets back? I pretended to be compassionate, mumbling words like "Tut, tut, tut, how awful. Give him our best. Tell him to take as long as he needs." I went so far as to get **Zealous Zena** the guardian of **CJN** spending when it comes to ordering things, to call the florist and have some flowers sent.

She looked at me suspiciously, trying to figure out if I was telling the truth or was somehow going to get those flowers diverted to the home of some winsome lass.

As **Jeff** is **The CJN's** assignment editor, it fell on me to fill in for him. Bad enough that I have to find time to write this inane column. All other managing editors I know write serious political columns or analyses of current issues facing our great nation. Instead, I write about where to go and what to do when you get there. You're grown up. You're mature. You should already know where to go and what to do. Why should I have to lead you by the hand? Has any one of you once invited me along on one of your vacations?

Hey, **Butcher Man**, you're saying. Chill out. Why so hostile? You're right. I apologize. It's the weather, I guess and the fact that the best laid plans of mice . . .

What I'm trying to tell you is that my grandiose plans for turning **The CJN** offices into an **Animal House** set for two weeks had suddenly turned sour. So I apologize for all of you who took up my offer to party with us. Maybe next year, or, if we get lucky, when the **Dragon Lady** goes out of town on business.

* * *

Like me, I imagine most of you are saying: "I've had this winter up to my ----" (fill in that part of your anatomy that best describes). There should be a law — and God knows we have enough of them in Canada — whereby the months of January and February are declared national holidays. Not only will we not be allowed to work during this period, but we will be forced to move at least 1,000 miles due south, learn to speak with a drawl, say "Have a nice day" to everyone we meet and wear clothes we wouldn't be caught dead in back home.

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Program provides excellent business experience

Jason Swirsky, seated, and Matthew David, members of Junior Achievement. proudly show a Memo-Re: message board that their company manufactures.

By STEPHANIE CHAPMAN

TORONTO — Matthew David leans back in his chair and says confidently, "If we get two good weeks of sales, we'll go out with a profit."

David, vice-president of finance and Jason Swirsky, his assistant, are about to liquidate their company.

In these hard economic times the news of another company closure is not surprising. However, in this case the owners are only 15-years-old.

The teenagers are members of Junior Achievement, a program that is designed to give participants a taste of what running a business is all about.

Going over the outline for the program, it is easy to see that dedication is essential for success. During the seven month time span of the program, students — with the help of volunteer advisors from the business community — experience every aspect of business, from capitalization through to liquidation.

Meeting for three hours a week, outside of regularly scheduled class time, each participant becomes a stockholder, a member of the board of directors and a participant in the decision-making process.

By actually operating their own small business, they learn to manage, to make critical decisions and to evaluate the results of those decisions — the only difference from real business is the scale of operations.

Swirsky and David, along with the other members of the company and their corporate sponsor Bell Canada, have successfully manufactured and marketed a product called Memo-Re:, a magnetic white board designed for messages. The product comes complete with a marker and a fimo magnet.

Compromise was the name of the game in the beginning, the teenagers explain.

The hardest decision was over what product the company was going to manufacture, and in the end, many ideas were vetoed either for cost or dulpication reasons.

The inclusion of the fimo magnet was in itself a compromise, David points out, because one member of the group originally wanted to only produce this product.

The research and development department ran into problems with the marker and the one that is sold with the board is actually the third and most successful type.

Do Swirsky and David stand behind their final product?

"Yes," David replies, while Swirsky nods in agreement.

"It is a versatile product that can be used everywhere. It is an environmentally friendly product," David points out, adding that messages can be written on the board instead of wasting paper.

"The dry erase marker also means that no solvents are needed to clean off the board," Swirsky says.

Belief in one's own product is necessary but sale figures tell the truth. At a recent Junior Achievement Fair, Swirsky and David, who's company was rated second over all participants, grossed $350. In total, 42 boards and 14 fimo magents were sold.

Asked how they intend to sell the rest of their inventory, the teenagers say they plan to set up shop in Trinity Square at the Eatons Centre. Members of the company will also sell to close friends, family members and other potential clients.

In total, they have 200 boards priced at $8 which includes the marker and one fimo magnet. Extra magnets are $1 each.

At the end of the program, each company completes normal year-end procedures, closes the books and, if profitable, declares and pays dividends.

Each company voluntarily liquidates and winds up their corporate affairs, converts all assets into cash, settles all accounts and distributes remaining assets to shareholders, along with a shareholders report.

Finally, participants can look forward to receiving what Jacqueline Lyndon, marketing manager of the Toronto chapter, called "the Grammys of Junior Achievement."

Not only do members finish the program with a possible award but they have also made valuable contacts within the corporate community, she adds. Junior achievement provides references for resumes, and in some instances, possible summer or part-time employment for members.

Asked if they had any changes they would make to the program, Swirsky and David agree that while the set up was beneficial, the computer software needs to be updated.

To purchase a Memo-Re: board, call Matthew David at 785-8733.

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Business & Finance

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The Young Construction Division of the United Jewish Appeal/Operation Exodus recently hosted the annual UJA real estate program "Real Estate: The Shape of Things to Come." The event drew a crowd of over 200 UJA contributors who are active in various areas of the real estate industry. The program was held at the Centennial Ballroom at the Inn on the Park. (From left) Neil Warshafsky and Gordon Wiseman, programming co-chairmen of Young Construction Division, officiated. Panelists included: Tom Ehrlich, president of Tanurb Development, Inc.; Frank Lewinberg, principal of Berridge, Lewinberg, Greenberg Ltd.; Diane Francis, Financial Post editor; and James McKellar, professor at the faculty of administrative studies, York University. Other committee members included David Bloomstone, David Dulberg, Richard Flomen, Harry Klaczkowski, Paul E. Rosen and Jay Wintraub, not pictured. (Joe Black photo)

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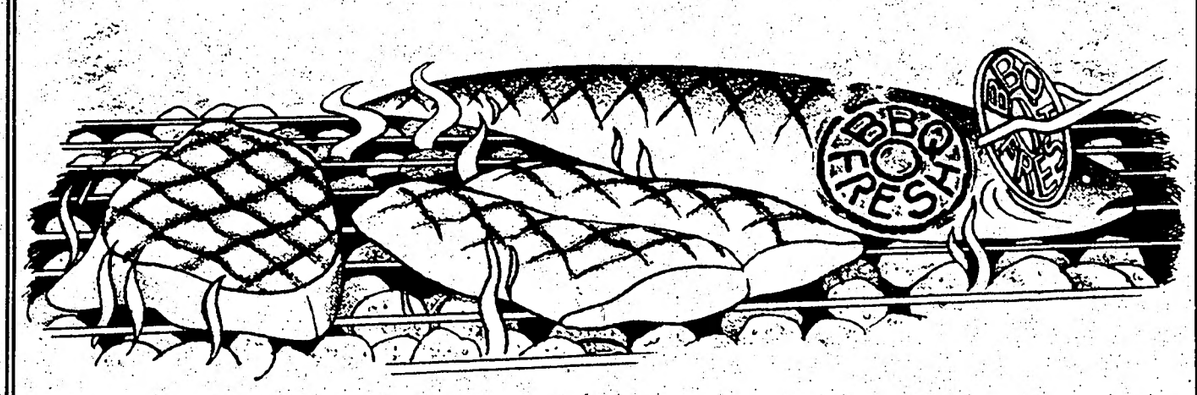

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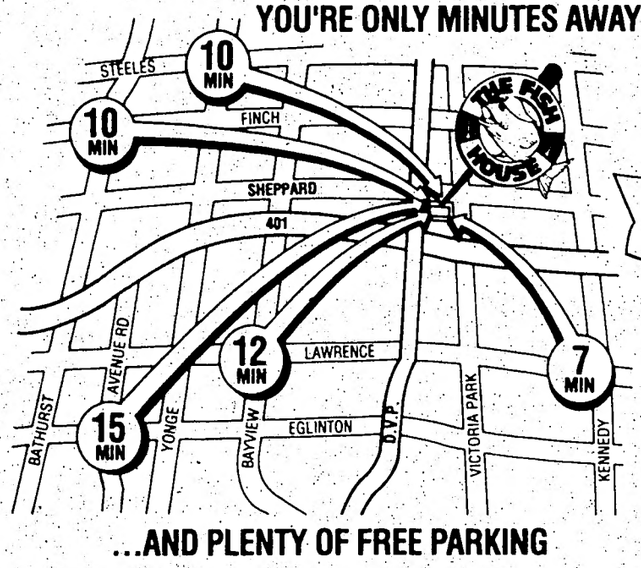

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Housing co-op to construct geared to income project

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO —To fill a crucial need for affordable housing in the Jewish community, the Moshav Noam housing co-op is constructing an $18-million building at Bathurst and Lawrence.

The building will have 133 units and 70 percent of them will be subsidized, with rents geared to income. It is expected to open in September, 1994.

Families earning $25,000 or less will be eligible for the largest subsidy, while those eligible for a moderate subsidy will be at the $37,000 or below level. A total of 27 percent of the units will be rented at market value, which at today's prices range from $675 a month for a one-bedroom apartment, to $775 for a two-bedroom, and $850-$900 for three bedrooms. These rents are subject to change.

The co-op is sponsored by the reconstructionist Congregtion Darchei Noam whose members make up five of the 11-member board of Moshav Noam.

Recreational facilities

"Our social action committee has been studying the need for housing among Jews and the need is acute," said Valerie Elliott Hyman, president of the co-op and a member of Darchei Noam.

The new project is on the south side of Lawrence Avenue just west of Bathurst Street, next to a recently-completed seniors building.

Twenty-five percent of the units will be designated for seniors, with the rest for families, singles and people with special needs. Twelve of the units will be modified for wheel chair occupants.

"Our vision for this project is the same as for Congregation Darchei Noam — that it be democratic, egalitarian, non-sexist, in the heart of the Jewish community and close to transportation," said Hyman.

She said the building was at one time slated to be a luxury condominium. There will be craft rooms, recreational spaces and facilities for community meetings and a garden out back.

The co-op is looking for tenants willing to serve on a management committee and help set policies on pets, parking and other items. Those interested should call Dan Fast, management consultant with Lantana Non-Profit Houses Corp., at 366-3746.

Don't Miss Passover Greetings
In our April 1st issue

Business & Finance

Economic News From Israel

Scitex shows big gain

JERUSALEM — Scitex Corporation has reported a 22 percent rise in its 1992 net profit to $122.4 million.

This improvement reflects the nature of the Herziliya-based concern's total revenues, which reached $549 million, a 28 percent increase from 1991's total revenue of $430 million.

The firm's shares, which are traded on NASDAQ, earned $3.02 per share, a 12 percent increase over 1991's $2.70 earning per share.

"We are pleased with our results because for a firm our size — with over $500 million in revenues — to grow at a rate of over 20 percent for two years straight is not automatic, especially when you consider that the economies of the western world are in recession," Scitex president Arieh Rosenfeld said.

Scitex is a world leader in high-tech color electronic pre-press printing systems.

The company's sales showed marked increases across the globe. In the Far East, excluding Japan — where Scitex has an established subsidiary with $45 million in revenues last year — the concern's sales rose by 95 percent to reach $25 million.

Rosenfeld attributed the growth to the establishment of a subsidiary in Hong Kong, resulting in significant sales in Korea, Hong Kong and Thailand.

In the Americas, the concern's activities produced revenues of $252 million, a 32 precent growth over 1991. In Europe, revenues totaled $226 million, a 24 percent rise from the year before.

According to Rosenfeld, these results point to Scitex's leading role in the high end of the color electronic pre-press sector.

"Our increase in sales in this end of the market was about 15 percent," he said. "Because this is higher than the market's total growth, it means we are clearly dominant."

Scitex's presence increased in the mid-range market, with a rise in sales of approximately 176 percent to $69 million.

* * *

Millions of melons

BEERSHEVA — The luscious melons grown in Israel's arid south are a prized item on the tables of European gourmets in the autumn and spring months.

Now, a simple and inexpensive agrotechnology developed by scientists at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev makes it possible to grow and export melons in the heart of winter.

Melons are one of Israel's major agricultural exports, bringing in more than $30 million annually, but the cost of heating greenhouses in the winter is prohibitive. Researchers at the university have long been seeking an efficient and cheap method of winter heating. The new passive solar heating method could more than double export revenue for Israeli farmers, since winter melons would command very high prices.

The system is based on water-filled plastic sleeves placed in the greenhouses to absorb the sun's rays. At night a thermal screen stretched over the planted area prevents the accumulated heat from escaping. Added carbon dioxide counters the effects of the constant high temperatures.

"The idea is simple," says Prof. Dov Pasternak, director of the Institute of Agriculture and Applied Biology. "Human beings keep warm in winter by covering themselves with blankets. We are using a thermal blanket to keep the plants warm during the night. We have adapted principles of passive solar heating to greenhouse cultivation for the first time."

The yield in the experimental areas has been impressive — 50 tons per hectare. Next year commercial planting will begin in the Arava valley, the Negev Plateau and the western Negev. Pasternak is planning experiments on peppers, tomatoes, flowers and fruit trees. He believes that in the not-too-distant future, the entire greenhouse agriculture of Israel's south will be based on this method.

* * *

Israel unemployment rising

TEL AVIV — The number of Israelis seeking work rose by 3.7 percent in January, reaching 152,000.

Unemployment for the last quarter of 1992 was 11.2 percent, up slightly from 11 percent in the previous quarter, according to preliminary figures released by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Unemployment during the same period of the previous year, the last quarter of 1991, was 11 percent as well.

Unlike previous quarters, the main rise in unemployment during the October-December period was among men. The male unemployment rate rose to 9.5 percent from 8.7 percent during the previous three months.

Among women, unemployment fell substantially for the first time all year, from 14.3 percent between July and September down to 13.1 percent.

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"Az der tatteh shenkt dem zun, lachen baideh; as der zun shenkt dem tatten vainen baideh."

"When the father gives to his son, both laugh; but when the son gives to his father, both cry."

For some sound counsel for the future, talk to
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THE BRIDLE PATH — An open concept living with first class amenities on 2 acres. Indoor pool w/o to landscaped grounds. $3,980,000. Please call Elise Kalles 441-2888.

$3,900,000. EPITOME OF ELEGANCE ON 23 ACRES. High Point 303 ft. front. Stunning indoor pool, exc. rm. Mod. kit./baths. 10,000 sq. ft. Please call C. Graff 441-2888.

OLD COLONY RD. — Newly built, brilliantly designed for grand entertaining & family living. Indoor pool/tennis court. $3,680,000. Please call Elise Kalles 441-2888.

$3,290,000. QUIET CUL-DE-SAC BAYVIEW-POST RD. Custom designed, award winning indr. pool, spa, tennis crt. 9,875 sq. ft. 4 garages. Please call C. Graff 441-2888.

THE BRIDLE PATH — Designed for entertaining and gracious living this home offers breathtaking gardens, pool/tennis court. $2,980,000. Please call Elise Kalles 441-2888.

$2,850,000. Looking in The Village for a fab. renovated home w/bright big windows, open space, skylts., fam. rm. w/all the bells. Please call C. Graff 441-2888.

OLD COLONY RD. — Magnificent south 130. x 296' lot with updated 4 bdrm. bungalow. Beautifully appointed. Pool. $1,680,000. Please call Elise Kalles 441-2888.

$1,499,000. Small bungalow on fab. 1½ acre ravine lot Bayview/Lawrence. Serene picturesque view, country living, minutes from city. Please call C. Graff 441-2888.

YORK MILLS GDNS.! New re-sale "no GST" most elegant 5,500 s.f. Fin. bsmt. & pool. Triple gar. $1,250,000. Superb quality! Please call M. Noar/M. Rosen 441-2888.

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569,000. Looking to end the space problem? This is it approx. 3,500 s.f. Library + family rm., 5 bdrms., fin. rec., pool, Leslie/York Mills. Please call C. Graff 441-2888.

QUAIL VALLEY — Exec. townhouse complex — approx. 2,200 sq. ft. on ravine, dble. gar., 2 f/p's., 4 w/o's, skylights, Jacuzzi. $349,000. Please call N. Kopman 441-2888.

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BATH./WILSON 1ST AD. Bung. $327K. 4 BR + den. L/L rec. rm., OBFP, 2 lge. br.. & kit., 3 pc. Lge. master, 5 pc. ens. Vend. transfer. Please call G. Kerbel 441-2888.

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ALEXANDRA WOOD — Gracious 7 bdrm. Tudor, open concept kit./family rm. overlooking breathtaking ravine — pool. $1,674,000. Please call Elise Kalles 441-2888.

1ST AD. FABULOUS 4,200+ homes. 6+ bdrms. Family rm. & library. Finished lower level with indoor pool ++. Bathurst/Glencairn. Please call G. Kerbel/B. Jacobs 441-2888.

REDUCED! CUSTOM BUILT APPROX. 3,200 SQ. FT. BUNG. 3 + 2 bdrms., mn. fam. rm. + laundry, skylite + fabulous l-level. Must view. Please call Carole Lazer 441-2888.

OPPORTUNITY IS KNOCKING ON LONSMOUNT'S RAVINE! Spec. 3 BR., 2 stry. centre hall classic + fin. l-level. Reduced to $525K. Please call B. Abramson 441-2888.

AMBIENCE OF OLD & NEW Historic Casa Loma. 3 stry. detached, professional/rooming house potential, on ravine across park. Please call B. Abramson 441-2888.

LUXURY CONDO — DOWNTOWN LOCATION Ravine exposure, 2 BR., lge. open concept design, hdwd. flrs. — decorator's decor. $349,900. Please call Natalie Kopman 441-2888.

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE 4 bdrm. home renov. 1 yr. ago. Separate in-law apt., double garage, hdwd. flrs., skylight. Priced at only $268,800! Please call Natalie Kopman 441-2888.

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LOWER VILLAGE • NEW •
3 New Homes to be built. Exciting plans. From 2,703 sq. ft. starting at $850,000. Call Rosa Bensky or Allan Tobe for details 488-2875

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Total reno! White kitchen, main floor den & powder room, 6 bdrms, 5 baths. Reesa Sud 488-2875

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Great building with long term tenants. Minimal maintenance, good safe property. Robert Samery 488-2875

BATHURST/WILSON 5 BDRMS
Main floor family room, 4 baths, main floor den, 50 x 131 ft lot. Call Robert Samery 488-2875

NEW HOME! 266 DELORAINE AVE
Spacious 3 bdrm, 4 bath, main flr family rm w/fireplace, garage. Lots of extras! $499,000. J. Fox 488-2875

REDUCED! PALM DR. LARGE BUNG
Appealing 6 room, hrdwd flrs, private 4 room bsmt. Income handy! Goldie Kay 226-1987

BEST BUNGALOW IN CEDARVALE!
Tudor style, loads of charm, excellent street. 30 x 115 lot, finished bsmt. Reesa Sud 488-2875

BATHURST & WILSON 1½ STOREY
50 x 121 Ft lot, needs cleaning, needs reno, needs new owner. Under $200,000. Robert Samery 488-2875

PRICED TO SELL! CALEDONIA/EGLINTON
Picture perfect 2 bdrm bungalow w/bsmt apt. New roof, pad parking, gas furnace. Faithe Sversky 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

OLD COLONY/BAYVIEW LOCATION
Fabulous 300' lot with comfortable 4 bdrm home included & many extras! Joan Ziezold 226-1987

YORK MILLS/BAYVIEW $1,080,000
5,000+ Sq ft, 5 bdrms, triple gar, 75 x 150 ft lot. 3 Years new. L. Grammer/S. Bobkin 226-1987

FIRST AD! BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME
Gorgeous lot, 100 x 165 lot. Close to Riverside Blvd. Be ready for spring. Olga Guvenal 226-1987

BUILDERS IN SEARCH OF LOTS!
For spring! North York, Thornhill, also some listed! Call Olga Guvenal/Hedda Zaionz 226-1987

YONGE/JOHN ST. $274,900
Stunning model-like townhome, 3 bdrms, fireplace, 2.5 baths, skylight, gourmet kit, 5 appl. J. Maguire/D. Weiser 226-1987

WALK TO NEW DAY SCHOOLS — MOVE NOW!
3 Bdrm + main flr family rm, ensuite, 2 car garage. Excellent financing! Hedda Zaionz 226-1987

YORK MILLS/LESLIE $217,900
3 Bedroom townhome, oak floor, huge eat-in kit, cath ceiling. Fab. price! Donna Weiser/Jim Maguire 226-1987

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LANDMARK LUXURY! MUST SELL!
1,227 Sq ft, 2 bdrm overlooking golf course. Huge solarium, $$ in upgrades. Faithe Sversky 488-2875

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BATHURST/LAWRENCE
New listing! 3 bdrm on generous lot. Only $269,000. **DAVID EICHORN 787-1712**

GLENGROVE
Brand new 3,500 sq. ft. 5 bdrm, 4 baths, fam. rm., lib. Best value! $599,000 **DAVID EICHORN 787-1712**

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
New listing! Renovated & spacious 3 bdrm bung on 55 x 120 ft. lot. Sep. entr. to apt. $339,000. **DAVID EICHORN 787-1712**

CLANTON PARK
4 bdrm specious bung. on 50 ft. lot. Eat-in kit., sep. entr. to apt. $319,000. **DAVID EICHORN 787-1712**

BATHURST/FAIRLAWN
40 ft. lot only $219,000. **DAVID EICHORN 787-1712**

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
Reduced $20,000! 4 bdrm, eat-in kit. Hdwd floors. Only $279,000. **DAVID EICHORN 787-1712**

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
Best new home in area! Custom built 3,500 sq. ft. Loaded with upgrades. $559,000. **DAVID EICHORN 787-1712**

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 2-4
East of Wilmington at 94 Overbrook Place. Lrge. sidesplit 50 x 159 ft. lot. Dble gar. Master bdrm ensuite. Central air, fireplace. Come see. **BEA BERMAN 661-8022**

WILMINGTON — EAST SIDE
Estate sale - New listing. 3 bdrm bung., sep. entr to fin. bsmt. **BEA BERMAN 661-8022**

BATHURST/FINCH
SAVOY - 9 ft. ceilings - $184,900. 2 bdrm, jacuzzi - Open concept. **BEA BERMAN 661-8022**

FAYWOOD/CLANTON PARK
2 storey 4 bdrm, custom built home on 60 x 135 ft. lot. Unique in design & Layout. **JACOB FLORANS 661-8022**

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
3 bdrm. bung. on 45 x 120 ft. lot. In-law suite rented at $550 month. New furnace and central air. $258,000. **JACOB FLORANS 661-8022**

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REALTY LIMITED REALTOR

"OLD THORNHILL" — PRESTIGIOUS CUL-DE-SAC. Just listed! 4 bdrm., den, 2 firepl., lg. deck. $519,900. Galya Hoffer, 731-7111.

ROSEDALE NORTH — HOMES & GARDENS. Spacious stunning 4 bdrm., mn. flr. fam. + fam. & libr., extras galore! Evelyn Pollock, 731-7111.

SPRING FARM — VALUE — $284,900
4 bdrm., mn. flr. fam., fin. bsmnt., dbl. gar. Gabby Goldring, 731-7111.

SPRING FARM/BETH AVRAHAM REDUCED!
Spacious 4 bdrm., fin. lower lev., will not last! Galya Hoffer, 731-7111.

BATHURST VILLAGE — CUSTOM 4 BDRM.
Elegant backsplit, appls., reduced to $323,000. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

BATHURST-ANTIBES — STARTER TOWNHOME
3 bdrm. + lower lev. bdrm., 5 appls., $194,900. Garry Hazli., 731-7111.

BATHURST-STEELES — VALUE $219,900
3 bdrm. semi bung., bsmnt. apt., Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

BATHURST-STEELES — LARGE FAMILY?
Value! 4 bdrm. semi, loaded, priced to sell! Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

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Lake Front Cottage — In Belle Ewart $199,900 52 x 315 **Lake Front Lot,** 4 bedroom cottage, great opportunity to buy lake front property 50 mins. from Toronto.

Clark & Bathurst $148,900 buys beautiful 2 bdrm. condo in The Conservatory. Grey & white decor, priced to sell. Walk to synagogues, shopping etc.

Bathurst & Steeles $329,900 — Beautiful upgraded home, renovated kitchen with greenhouse solarium, oak floors, cathedral entrance. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Must be seen!

Homelife/Partners Realty Inc.

Signature
Realty Limited Realtor

CLARK/NEW WESTMINSTER 2 storey 4 bdrm exec home on quiet Cres. Lg. eat-in kit, laund on 2nd flr, 3 baths, large principal rooms *W. Silverstein

YONGE/SHEPPARD "ATRIUM II" Large lux condo west facing with firepl. 2 large bdrms, large eat-in kitchen Call *Ian S. Feldman

BATHURST/STEELES Beautiful well kept 2 bdrm condo marble ceramic fabulous view close to TTC shopping Must be seen *S. HOCHMAN/*B. FRANCES

NORTH YORK BEAUTY THAT HAS IT ALL 4 bdrms master bdrm with 4pc ens, & walk-in closet comb lr/dr hardwd flrs, main flr fam rm + main flr laund close to Associated Hebrew, A. Y. Jackson schools Call *RIVY NOSOV

730-1077

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Realty Limited Realtor
South East corner of Bathurst & Steeles

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FOR SALE
$141,500 4 bdrm twnhse + walkouts, prkg.
$178,000 3 bdrm + sol. ceramics, parquet, prkg.
$338,000 4 bdrm customized + + + Thornhill

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CLARK & BATHURST
$329,000. 4 Bdrm., 4 Baths, Bsmt. Rental $1,200 month.
$289,000. 4 Bdrm., 4 Baths, white kit., fully loaded.

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ASSOCIATE BROKER
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Res:222-2748
Off: 222-9707

BATHURST/CLARK $290.000
Major Reno,4 large bdrm. fam. huge lot, prime area,extremely bright. Walk To Shull !

BATHURST/CLARK Luxury Residence for Rent. Furnished ! Walk To Shull !

INDUSTRIAL UNIT.$180.000
Vacant. Must sell. Excellent area.

For this and other properties in vicinity please call:
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Res:222-2748
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1ST AD BATHURST/EARL BALES
73' FRONTAGE $299,000
Wonderful sidesplit 3 bdrms, eat-in kitchen. Finished lower level, C.A.C. Magnificent landscaped gdn. View with Nat Frankel 485-2333 Kingsway National R.E. Ltd. Rltr.

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BLUE FOREST DRIVE
$399,000. 4 bdrm., 3 bths, up-to-date kit, built-in appls., good-size liv & din., den, fam. rm., w/outs. Don't miss!

ESTATE SALE $359,000
Bathurst Sheppard, 4 bdrm., 4 bths, huge liv & din, pmod. kit., appls, fam. rm., w/out, fin. bsmnt, 52' x 225' lot, dble gar.

BATHURST MANOR
5 bdrm., de[SOLD] fin. bsmnt., gar., fast po[SOLD].

SHEPPARD BATHURST
$234,500. Ideal starter, 3 bdrm, 2 bths, mod. kit., fin. bsmnt. Gar.

BATHURST STEELES T.H.
$199,800. 3 bdrms., 3 bths, fam. size kit., appls, fin. bsmnt, gar., move-in cond.

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME
Sheppard Wilson Heights - 4 lots ready-to-go. Don't miss!

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9 Marwill Street
Don't miss this opportunity to own a great three bedroom bungalow on 50' x 150' lot. A rare find. Please call for your private viewing
Angela Martini/Mike Donia
Sales Representatives
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East side Bathurst/Clark. 3 bdrm. + bsmt., white kitch., neutral decor. Great layout. $222,900. Anna Benchimol or Rochelle Covant. HOMELIFE/ HERITAGE GROUP LTD. 764-7111.

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CONDO LIFESTYLE
$119,000.00 — 2 Bdrm, 2 bath, parking Bath/Steeles.
$299,000 — 1 Bdrm., 2 bath, Cumberland/Ave. Rd.

LUXURY LIVING
$339,000 — 2,600 sq. ft. Dble. garg. Thornhill
$498,900 — 5+1 bdrm, prestigious "German Mills" Thornhill
$799,000 — 5+1 bdrm, pool, prestigious "Bayview Hills T.H."

WANTED 1ST TIME BUYER
$249,900 — 3 bdrm + fin. bsmt. Bath & York Downs
$299,900 — 3 bdrm. - fin bsmnt. Eglinton & Allen

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Bathurst/Drewry - $269,900
A lovely 3 bdrm split. Quiet crescent. Mn. flr. fam. room. Walk-out to garden. Eat-in kitchen. 5 appl, C/A and more. Walk to shul and all conveniences. Call Ruth Rybak.

Bathurst-York Downs
Magnificent new 5 bdrm. 2 storey. Main flr. laundry, family, powder rm. Approx. 4,500 s.f. plus large basement. Call Ruth Rybak
787-7151

BATHURST - FINCH
Better than new, gorgeous 3 bedroom updated bungalow, 3 baths + Jacuzzi, fam room, walk out. Finished basement, move in condition. Sally Rosen 884-4425 Century 21 Smith Ltd.

BATHURST-STEELES S.
Elegant upgraded sidesplit, stunning decor, vendor transferred, 3 baths, 2-car gar., loads of extras. Sally Rosen, 884-4425, Century 21 Smith Ltd.

LUXURY HOMES from 2,500-4,200 sq. ft. Some under construction. Highly-praised Italian builder. Purchase in time to chose finishes. **BATHURST/ CENTRE (near Promenade)** and **YONGE/FINCH** locations. Landmark Rlty. Inc., Sarit Silverberg, 299-1818 or 347-1818.

THORNHILL
Bathurst-Chabad Gate. Det. 3 bdrm., 2 bths., fam. rm. & firepl., 5 appls., 52' lot. $249,000. 398-0136

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

3,000s.f. Kosher home. 4 spacious bedrooms upstairs with skylight cathedral ceiling, main floor family room, study, living room, dining room and renovated kitchen with separate counters and dairy/meat dishwashers. Fully finished basement with 2 bedrooms, full bath, playroom, Pesach kitchen. Near Associated, Netivot & B.A.Y.T. in desirable Rosedale North area of Thornhill. 886-5557.

Bathurst/ Clark. Upgraded 3,000s.f. 4 bed, 2 1/2 bath. Move in cond. $389K.764-1107.

Bathurst/Finch. 5 bed, 3 bath. Detached. Finished bsmt. Nannies quarters. Alarm. Lot 50x149'. No agents. 518-6646.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

THORNHILL
Bathurst-Chabad Gate. Det. 3 bdrm., 2 bths., fam. rm. & firepl., 5 appls., May 1st. $1,300/mo. 398-0136

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SKYMARK REVIEW DON MILLS & FINCH

SKYMARK II — Upgraded cosy 1 bdrm. + sun den + open balc. + 5 app. + etc. Only $139,900. Rare opportunity.
SKYMARK ELEGANCE — Luxury penthouse approx. 2,700 sq. ft. + landscaped roof gdn., S.E. corner w/breathtaking panoramic view., featuring 3 bdrms. + fam., cathedral ceiling, firepl., 5 skylights, sauna, 2 parking, 2 lockers + much more. Drastic reduction **MARK SPECIALIST**, 441-2003/24 hrs. on call, carphone + pager. **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

BATHURST & CLARK THE CONSERVATORY
Luxurious 4,300 sq. ft. penthouse, family rm, study. Panoramic view, maids quarters. The ultimate in condominium lifestyle.
Steve Gerlock & Marsha Goldstein
Homelife/Partners Realty Inc.
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CONSERVATORY BATHURST & CLARK
$199,900 2 bdrm, solarium balcony. 2 parking, south west exp. Approx 1,350 ft/best layout. Steve Gerlock 229-4454 Homelife/Partners Realty Inc.

Canada Trust Realty

Bathurst/Wilson
Spacious and bright 3 bedroom, 2 bath, approximately 1,400 sq. ft. Eat-in kitchen, balcony, walk to Synagogues, Shopping, Schools, Bus at door, very well maintained building. Well priced at $149,900. For a private showing, call MARILYN DERRIN at 270-3930.

BATHURST & STEELES
$184,900.00. Lovely 2-bedroom apartment in grey & white decor, large window in kitchen, 2 modern baths, "Primrose," ensuite alarm system & laundry. Carmen Piensos, 785-6612

• **175 HILDA.** 3 bd., S. expos., $136,900. Mark Waxman, 731-7111.
• **1101 STEELES.** 2 bd., 2 bths., $149,900. G. Goldring, 731-7111.
• **1111 STEELES.** $125,000. 2 bd., balc., 2 pkg. G. Hazin, 731-7111.
• **115 ANTIBES.** 2 bd., balc., $164,900. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.
UNGERMAN RLTY. RLTR.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Avail. May 1. 1 bedroom at 135 Antibes Dr. Call 881-6352.

Bath./Finch. (Hemispheres 1). 2 bed. condo. 1 full bath, large walk-in closet. $1,250 inclusive. Parking. Inquiries/ messages. 785-8184.

Bathurst/Sheppard. Large 3 bed. Upgraded. Laundry. Balcony. Pool. $1,315. 638-4041.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Conservatory. 2 bed plus sol., 2 bath. 9' ceiling. Marble. All appl. Near shul. 886-4224 after 4.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

Immaculate 2 bed, 2 bath. Primrose. $179,950. 665-1955.

GIDEON WAICHENBERG
Bathurst & Steeles, Condominiums wanted, sell/rent. RE/MAX VISTA REALTY INC. 520-5700.

50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Bathurst/ Steeles Room. Share/facil. Non-sm. 650-1100.

Good Jewish home seeks border. Share facil. 669-0981 eves.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

2 bedroom Deluxe to share. Kosher kitchen. Bathurst/ Lawrence by TTC. $375 all inclusive. Call Brian days, 744-9447, evenings 785-6249.

Avenue/Wilson. Lady, non-smoker, share bsmt. & facilities. $85/ week. 487-7792.

Lawrence/Bathurst. Free rent in exchange for companionship for elderly lady and minor household duties. 964-0929.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Single, prof. female, seeks same to share fab. lux. townhome. Yonge/Davisville area. Large friendly dog. Immediate. Call Diane 488-0705.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

SENIORS' BUILDING
Eglinton/Bathurst
Bachelor & 1 Bedroom Apt.
Walk to Shops and Subway.
Clean, quiet 8 year old building, T.T.C. at door, recreation facilities.
789-0820

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4266 & 4300 Bathurst St.
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balconies, friendly atmosphere,
in house activities
Please call:
630-4752 or 638-6853
and leave message

Bathurst/Steeles. 2 bed bsmt. Sep. entrance. Kitchen. Parking. Air. Partly furn. Close to TTC. $650 neg. 886-6305.

Bathurst/Wilson. Brand new bsmt. Priv. entrance. Elegant. Parking. No pets, smoking. $650. Furnished or unfurnished. 398-6105, No Shabbat calls.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bathurst/Glencairn. Brand new furnished 1 bed bsmt. Separate entrance. Non-smoker. Immediate. No pets. 787-4154.

Luxury furnished bsmt. All appliances. Steps to shuls. Bathurst close to Promenade. 2 bed. $700 inclusive. 731-7240.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart lakefront. 4 bed, 2 bath. Freshly reno'd. Winterized. Full utilities, well & sewers. Large dock. Minutes from 2 shuls. 630-3390 days, 494-5071 evenings.

Lake Simcoe waterfront. 4 bed, fireplace, porch, plus cabin with washroom. Close to Camp Arrowhead. 449-1008.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Balfour Beach, Lake Simcoe. 5 bed, 2 bath. Screened porch. Fenced 1/2 acre. Lake view. Extended season. 731-8321.

Belle Ewart. 3 bedroom. Fully equipped. Lakefront with safe, sandy beach. Avail. from May-October. Monthly or season. 669-1889 or 737-6535 eve.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Belle Ewart, Big Cedar Point area to rent summer '93. References available. 481-0026.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Palm Aire. Beautifully furnished and upgraded 3 bed, 2 1/2 bath. Water and golf view. Steps to spa. 444-2685, 305-974-0053.

Wynmoor Village, Coconut Creek. 2 bed, 2 bath. Enclosed patio. Upgrades. On golf course. $80,000. 305-971-2305.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Delray Beach. 1 bed apt. 2 blocks from Ocean. Weekly/ monthly. 859-0023 after 6pm.

Luxurious condo, North Miami Beach. Furn. Available April 1. 783-5303 evenings.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

2 bed. condo. Ground level. Best location- Holon. 590-9866.

170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED

Property in Israel wanted. All kinds. Mr. Jacobs, 886-6510.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

WATERFRONT
Lake Simcoe/Crescent Harbour
Incredible new home over 6,000 sq. ft. 6 bedrooms, panoramic view. All the best walnut floors, 3 fireplaces, 6 b/i commercial appliances, oak kitchen, 20'x40' concrete inground pool, triple car garage priced to sell $899,000. Call Gary Parsons direct (705) 734-6873.
Re/Max Chay Realty Inc.

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London, England. Central/ North, bordering Highgate. Large, self-contained, split-level apartment, 3 bed, lounge, kitchen/ dining room, full bath, central heat. Quiet area, near interesting shopping/public transportation. Street parking. All guarantees. $180,000. 782-8686.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

JANI-KING #1 Janitorial Franchise in N. America. Start on P/T or F/T basis & grow. Equipment, accounts and operational support provided. 391-2407.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Director of Care
Pine Villa, a 70 bed retirement home facility requires a Director of Care. You possess the leadership skills that motivate your team members and ensure quality of care. A certificate of competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario, experience in long term care management essential. Post graduate education preferred. Please call Ellie, 787-5626.

We are seeking a full-time recreation therapist who is responsible for the overall planning, implementation and evaluation of programs that meet the recreational needs of our residents. Completion of a university degree or college diploma in recreation therapy or related discipline. Must have a license and be able to operate a van. Please call Ellie, 787-5626.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

COMPANIONS UNLIMITED
Companions, Health Care Aides, Housekeepers, Cooks, Male/Female Attendants, Alzheimer's Care
A personal service for families desiring carefully screened and trained professional care for the elderly. We match special needs with special care providers.
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Cleaning lady, apts. & houses. Exper. References. Available Thursdays, Leonora, 533-7319.

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Educated, reliable young lady seeks job caring for elderly/ companion. Refs. 532-7469.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Nannies available immediately. Full/part time. Cleaning, caring for elderly. Number 1 Domestic Service, 630-0674.

Polish lady will clean your house or apt. Call 265-7398.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Autos delivered Florida, Arizona, California, Vancouver etc. Est. 35yrs. Toronto Driveaway Service, 225-7754.

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270 PERSONALS

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All ages from 4 years old.
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Coffee anyone! Early 40's male, never married and still charming. Enjoys sports, the symphony and a good laugh, seeks Coffee Mate. She is in her 30's, outgoing, fitness conscious, enjoys dancing and the arts. Photo appreciated. Box 5825 CJN.

Are you into: hog calling, Barry Manilow or jello wrestling? If so, don't read this ad. Alternatively, if you are a non-smoking female 23-30 who keeps fit and is looking for a "mensch", then I am looking for you. Sense of humour required. Box 5819 CJN.

Physician, trim, nearly six feet, with sense of humour, many interests, thoughtful, seeks traditional woman, 30-35 for lasting commitment. Box 5815 CJN.

REPLYING TO A COMPANION AD WITH A CJN BOX NUMBER?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box_____
The Canadian Jewish News
10 Gateway Blvd.,
Suite 420
Don Mills, Ontario
M3C 3A1

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attractive female, 50ish, athletic, enjoys sports, family and the arts, financially independent, seeks male, 55-65 with same interests, financially secure. Send photo and letter to Box 5824 CJN.

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Gentleman seeks imaginative sybarite to age 50. Respond with detailed reply to Box 5828 CJN.

Jewish Matchmakers Int'l. Largest database. 1-800-234-9995.

Pretty woman, blonde, professional, slim, elegant, warm, caring, with a good sense of humour, seeks sincere professional or businessman 50+ for relationship. Box 5827 CJN.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEVINE-BLEIWAS. Frannie and Paul Levine and Carol and Aaron Bleiwas are thrilled to finally announce the engagement of their children Julie Claire to David Neil. Proud grandparents are Gert Green Weisfeld, Albert Bleiwas and Evelyn Gudofsky.

330 OBITUARIES

Simon, Murray Harold (Moshe Tzvi) in Israel, 13 Adar, 5753, March 6, 1993. Funeral in Karnei Shomron on Purim. Mourned by Perry, Dena, Victor, Tova Bryna and spouses and 18 grandchildren. Memorial donations Simon Shomron Charitable Fund, P.O. Box 348, Ginot Shomron, Israel, 44853.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Absolute top cash for home contents, wooden furniture and estates. 488-9041.

Fountain pens/wristwatches. All types wanted. Will pay from $5-$5000 for your old pen or wristwatch. Ray, 891-2075.

338 SHIVA CATERING

RACHEL'S CATERING
GLATT KOSHER COR150
• 30% OFF REG. PRICE
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MEALS • PLATTERS
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330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
FIGHT CANCER!
CALL THE
ISRAEL CANCER RESEARCH FUND
487-5246
for information on how you can support Cancer Research in Israel.
SEND OUR TRIBUTE CARDS FOR ALL OCCASIONS
THIS AD IS COURTESY OF "THE ELEGANT GARAGE SALE"

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION CLASSIFIED ADVERTISERS!

OY, DO I HAVE TSOURIS!

If you called the Canadian Jewish News between
March 4th and March 10th
to place a classified ad
and ***DID NOT PREPAY...***
Please call Alan to ensure your insertion.
Because...we had a computer breakdown **422-2331**

CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

All classified ads will be accepted on the basis of **NO CHANGES** in copy. and **NO CANCELLATIONS** until AFTER the first insertion.

The Canadian Jewish News cannot be responsible for the cost of more than one incorrect insertion. Any errors in the Classified Ads Section should be called to the attention of the Classified Ads Department on the first insertion of that ad.

We cannot bill for classified ads. They may be charged over the telephone to your Visa or MasterCard credit card, or you may mail in your ad with a cheque to: The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario M3C 3A1.

DEADLINE: Call 9 days preceding issue date
(for copy and prepayment)
Call 422-2528
for information on rates

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SERVICE DIRECTORY

350 APPLIANCES

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345 ACCOUNTING

Chartered Accountant. Income tax, accounting, financial planning. K.J. Caplan, CA, 168 Sheppard Ave. West, 512-1725.

Experienced Bookkeeper Financial statements. Manual or AccPac, in my home. Ideal for small business. Reasonable rates. 764-0526 evgs. or Sun.

355 AUDIOVISUAL REPAIRS/ SALES

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"Jacob Repairs". All tv's, vcr's, computers. Free est. 636-1402.

365 CARPENTRY

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